

BARRE GAZETTE

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Finance committee meets with department heads

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – The Barre Finance Committee continues to meet with various department heads during the budget process.

Thursday, April 1 the committee met with the board of assessors, Council on Aging director and library director. Assessor Jesse Warren attended the meet-

ing in person and assessor Rachel Cranium participated remotely. Warren said the assessors did a property reevaluation every five years and put aside \$4,000 each year to cover the cost. He said last year was a revaluation year and the next one would be 2025.

Finance committee chair, Claire Adomaitis, said there was \$89,000 on the books for revaluation. She asked if this money was left over

from previous years. The assessors did not know if it was the case.

If so, she said it should be rolled back into free cash. Cranium said they would bring the matter up at the next meeting. The assessors requested a computer replacement.

Council on Aging

Eileen Clarkson, Council on Aging Director, participated with the finance committee

remotely. She said her total salary of \$49,155, which included \$5,000 from the state formula grant the COA received yearly. It did not include a Cost of Living Assessment. Adomaitis said the finance committee would “add a COLA depending on how the total numbers come in.” The finance committee asked Clarkson how her salary compared to other towns and she said it was “lower.” Clarkson

said she was the only employee and covered two towns, Barre and Hardwick, located at the Barre Senior Center.

Clarkson said the state formula grant was based on the number of people over 60 years of age and awarded \$12 per elder. Currently, the formula used the 2010 census figure of 1,000 over age 60 for Barre, but the number would change this year when the 2020

census numbers are released. Barre currently received about \$12,000.

The chair asked Clarkson what the remainder of the grant was used for. Clarkson said it was used for programming, instructors, classes, events, etc. Adomaitis said she would like an itemized list. Clarkson said she was work-

See FINANCE COMMITTEE, page 5

Selectmen reorganize at April 20 meeting

By Ellenor Downer
Staff Writer

BARRE – Gregory O’Sullivan nominated Dylan Clark as chairmen of the board of selectmen at the Tuesday, April 20 meeting.

Clark declined the nomination and nominated O’Sullivan as chair. The board also nominated Clark vice chair and newly elected selectman Maureen Marshall as clerk. The board approved all three nominations.

ATM warrant

Following reorganization, selectmen opened the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting at its Tuesday meeting and voted to close the warrant at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 13. The board said the ATM would be held Tuesday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. at a location to be announced. Chair O’Sullivan said the meeting would either be outdoors at Quabbin Regional High School or Ruggles Lane School. He said now the town has tents, he would like to use them. The town purchased the tents with CARES Act funds.

Bylaw proposal

Attorney Paul Cranston and Rick Lindsten proposed a zoning bylaw chance for a section of Barre Plains. Cranston said the section by the Barre Plains ball field was zoned limited business and said there was no purpose in zoning it limited business. He said it should be changed to residential, which would allow his client to build a house on a vacant lot he owned. Cranston said the statute for zoning bylaw required the proposal go to the board of selectmen, who then would pass it on to the planning board, who would hold a public hearing published in the paper. The board will forward to the planning board.

Mounted license plate reader

Police chief John Carbone requested a mounted license plate reader for his department. He said the pole mounted device cost \$2,500 per year less than a cruiser mounted camera, which cost \$20,000. If approved, he planned to mount it on a pole along Worcester Road. There also would be a \$300 fee to change the pole location if it was moved. The camera would read license plates, store the information for 30 days and send a signal to the Rutland Regional Emergency Dispatch Center and the police department. Chief Carbone said the police department would then decide if it pursued any registration infractions. The board approved the request, which will be funded out of the police department budget.

Road work

Selectmen approved spending \$100,000 for engineering of drainage on Williamsville Road.

See BARRE, page 5



The sunrise was a sight to behold. This was taken in Hardwick on Tuesday, April 27.

Turley Publications Courtesy Photo by Larry Ostiguy

Superintendent responds to anonymous letter

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Voters in town received an anonymous letter in the mail last week from “concerned voters of North Brookfield,” detailing “major issues,” involving the North Brookfield Public Schools. The letter was also shared on social media resulting in hundreds of comments, and an outpouring of support for the School Committee, administrators and teachers.

Superintendent Richard Lind said the first concern raised in the letter was an alleged “wish list” of books that contain “very disturbing materials.” Lind said the books which the letter writer is referring to were not subject to being approved by the School Committee, but rather a list that teachers worked on together to add to the curriculum that were inclusive and diverse. The teachers shared the results of their research with their colleagues and the School Committee. Lind said about the importance of having inclusive literature, “If you see someone like yourself as an author, you see yourself as an author.” Lind said the teachers in North Brookfield Public Schools, “do wonderful work to connect students.”

Even though the letter was upsetting to North Brookfield educators, Lind said, “the backlash has also been positive...

almost all of the books have been purchased,” and that his office is full of Amazon delivery boxes. Lind said, “the majority of people are appalled by the letter.” To the people that purchased books to donate to the school, Lind said he feels that each book purchased “meant something,” to the person buying it.

Lind’s response

Dear North Brookfield School Community,

I am writing in response to an open letter to the community by an anonymous author regarding the actions/direction of our schools. The letter, which was sent via U.S. Mail and shared via social media, is advocating for change through the upcoming town election, and the intent of my letter to you is not to advocate for or against any candidate.

The purpose of this letter is to address the inaccuracies contained in that open letter. I usually tend not to respond to things such as this, but it is important that the community understand what is actually happening, rather than misinformation or statements that are not accurate. Unfortunately, if left unaddressed, some people assume this means the statements in the anonymous letter are true, so I feel compelled to respond. Please see the statements made in the anonymous letter and my response to each below:

See SUPERINTENDENT, page 8

Forsythia provide rays of sunshine



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This hedge of forsythia in Oakham is in full bloom. The yellow blossoms stand out against the green grass. A barn is visible in the background.

Free fishing derby is May 1

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield Sportsman’s Club in conjunction with the North Brookfield Police Department, are sponsoring a free kid’s fishing derby on Saturday, May 1, at North Brookfield Town Forest Park, off Rte. 67 (26-28 West Brookfield Road). Registration

will begin at 8 a.m. and the derby will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Town Forest pond will be stocked with trout for children ages 5 to 15 to catch. Children do not need to reside in North Brookfield to attend – all are welcome. Prizes will be awarded.

\$1.3 mil proposed cut would impact schools

Programs, transportation, staffing to be affected

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – At one point 133 people logged in to North Brookfield School Committee’s April 26 meeting held via Zoom at 7 p.m., during which School Superintendent Richard Lind discussed

the approximately \$1.3 million cut in the fiscal 2022 school budget being recommended by selectmen and the Finance Committee. Lind read correspondence he received from Board of Selectmen Chair Dale Kiley about the recommendation.

On April 13, Lind received a reply to an email he sent to Kiley regarding the fiscal 2022 budget. In his reply Kiley said, “FinComm and the BOS are proposing \$5,158,872.00 as the town’s contribution to the FY 22 school budget.” Both Lind and Tucker have responded to Kiley’s reply but had not received a response as of the April 26 meeting. Lind said he requested a tri-board meeting of the selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee.

Lind said on Feb. 22, the School Committee approved a preliminary fiscal 2022 budget in the amount of

See SCHOOL CUTS, page 6

Town clerk lists town election information

NEW BRAINTREE – The annual town election will take place on Monday, May 3 from noon-8 p.m. in the New Braintree Town Hall, located at 20 Memorial Drive.

Offices up for election and the candidates who have taken out papers are as follows: select board for 3 years - Joseph Chenevert, incumbent; assessor for 3 years - Pamela Dunigan, incumbent; board of health for 3 years - Scott Metcalf, incumbent; finance committee for 3 years - vacancy; planning board for 5 years - Genevieve Stillman, incumbent; planning board for 4 years to fill a vacancy – Jody Kablack; constable for 3 years - Edward Reed; library trustee for 3 years - Judith Webb; library trustee for 3 years - vacancy and cemetery commissioner for 3 years - vacancy.

People may contact Town Clerk Jessica Bennett at 508-867-2071, extension 102 or at townclerk@newbraintree.org with any questions or concerns. All COVID-19 protocols including mask wearing will be strictly enforced.



News of the Towns



Round Town

Ellenor Downer
413-967-3505

Farmers' market opens Saturday

The Barre Farmers' Market opens Saturday, May 1 on the Barre Common. It will be open from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and features local farmers, crafters and more. The market will be open Saturdays May through October.

Barre Food Pantry

The Barre Food Pantry schedules their two distributions each month on the morning of the second Wednesday and the evening of the third Thursday. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 12 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. or in the evening on Thursday, May 20 from 5:30-7 p.m., whichever is more convenient for them. As they have since last spring's distributions, in order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients, May 12 and 20 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church. They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers.

Post 2 men's Bocce league

American Legion Post 2 is looking to rebuild the Barre Men's Bocce League. There are three Bocce Courts behind the American Legion Post #2 at 450 South Barre Road. At one time about three years ago, Post #2 had six teams with six players each. Games are on Mondays at 6 p.m. and start date is scheduled for May 3. Cost is \$5 per week so prizes may be awarded at the end of the season for first, second and third place finishing teams. Men interested in playing on a team should call 978-355-4002.

Church supper

The supper committee of the Barre Congregational Church, 30 Park St., will hold a drive thru chicken dinner Saturday, May 1 with pickup 5-5:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 per adult and \$5 per child under 12. People must call Lisa Holloway at 978-355-0140 for reservations. Dinner includes salad, chicken half, corn, potato and a desert. This dinner is a fundraiser for the church.

Signage marks Oakham historic district



This new sign on New Braintree Road near the center of Oakham marks the beginning of the historic district.

Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

Barre Food Pantry to hold monthly distributions

BARRE – The next two Barre Food Pantry distributions will occur on Wednesday, May 12 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and on Thursday, May 20 from 5:30-7 p.m. Please note that the Wednesday morning distributions in 2021 are ending a half hour earlier than they have in the past, at 11:30 a.m.

The Barre Food Pantry schedules their two distributions each month on the morning of the second Wednesday and the evening of the third Thursday. Clients are invited to pick up groceries from the food pantry either in the morning on Wednesday, May 12 or in the evening on Thursday, May 20, whichever is more convenient for them.

The Barre Food Pantry volunteers strive to continue to fulfill their mission to get food to hungry and food insecure clients.

The pantry must also continue to protect clients, volunteers and the larger community from the catastrophic spread of the novel COVID-19 virus to which no-one has immunity. Many clients and volunteers are classified as high-risk due to their age and/or underlying health conditions.

As they have since last spring's distributions, in order to maintain safe physical distances between volunteers and between volunteers and clients, May 12 and 20 will again be "drive-through" style distributions. Clients will line up in their vehicles on Park Street and proceed into the right hand (east) entrance driveway of the Barre Congregational Church.

They will remain in their cars. They'll drive up and be checked in by a volunteer, then continue up to the church building where their groceries will be put into the trunk or wayback of their vehicle by volunteers.

Based on the success of distributions so far, the Food Pantry volunteers believe this "drive-through" style is the safest possible way to get food to clients and to help keep everyone well.

While the pantry typically used to have an "all hands on deck" approach to welcoming volunteers, in March they will once again be working with just a very small crew. They are preparing for the distribution by only working in shifts at the pantry, in small household/family groups.

Volunteers should not arrive to volunteer on May 12 or 20 without first contacting Dave Petrovick at 978-355-4519 or Chuck Radlo at 978-355-6463.

Because conditions have been changing rapidly, please continue to check for updates on the Barre Food Pantry website at <http://www.barrefoodbank.org/index.htm> and the Barre Food Pantry Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Barre-Food-Pantry-100156068300314/>.

Hubbardston

Ellenor Downer
edowner@turley.com



Hike planned at Fieldstone farm

Hubbardston Open Space Committee and East Quabbin Land Trust invite individuals and families for a community hike at Fieldstone Farm on Lombard Road. The one-mile walk begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 22 at 1 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, May 23. Fieldstone Farm is near the Audubon Society in Princeton. Eventually the hope is to connect with the Mid State Trail and Mt. Wachusett.

Rabies clinic

2021 Dog Licenses are now past due. A late fee of \$25 will be added to all dogs licensed after May 31. Dogs must have a valid rabies on file to license. Gardner Animal Control will be hosting a rabies clinic on May 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a rain date of May 23. Pre-Registration is required. Forms are available to print on the Hubbardston town website. Forms may be dropped in the locked box at the Gardner Animal Shelter located at 899 West Broadway or emailed to animaladoption@gardner-ma.gov People may call 978-630-4950 with questions or concerns.

Senior center

The Hubbardston Senior Center drive through food and eggs will still be in place on Thursday mornings. Masks will be in place properly and distancing will be followed.

Barre Dining Center

BARRE — Elder Services of Worcester Area Nutrition Program welcomes guests to dine at the Barre Senior Center, 557 South Barre Road. The following meals will be served for the week of May 3.

Meal sites are closed and there are only Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Volunteers are needed at the Barre dining site. Volunteers are needed for Meals on Wheels (mileage reimbursement) and in the kitchen. People should contact 978-355-5027.

MON. – Lasagna with meatballs, roasted broccoli, Lorna Doone cookies, Italian bread

TUES. – Beef with peppers and onions, steak cut potato wedges, honey glazed carrots, cinnamon pears, sandwich roll

WED. – Chicken Fajitas, Spanish rice, black beans and corn, sour cream, pita bread, pineapple

THURS. – Roast turkey with gravy, mashed sweet potatoes, green beans, cream puffs, Italian bread

FRI. – Breaded fish strips, coleslaw, peas and carrots, baked apples, tartar sauce, sandwich roll

*Diabetic friendly dessert

**Higher sodium entree

Meal includes milk and margarine. Menus are subject to change. All meals are served at about 11:45 a.m. each weekday. Reservations should be made the day before by calling 978-355-5027 before 10:30 a.m. The donation of \$2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

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News of the Towns

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Note: Many meetings are closed to the public or will be held remotely.

BARRE

Finance Committee – April 29 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – May 3 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Assessors – May 4 at 6 p.m.
Felton Field Commission – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Planning Board – May 4, May 18 and June 1 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – May 5 at 1 p.m.
Barre Housing Authority – May 6 at 3 p.m.
9/11 Memorial Development Committee – May 6 at 7 p.m.
QRSD Special Ed Subcommittee – May 7 at 9 a.m.
Board of Health – May 10 at 5 p.m.
Water Commission – May 10 at 6:30 p.m.
DPW Commission – May 10 at 7 p.m.
Library Trustees – May 18 at 6:30 p.m.
Sewer Commission – May 20 at 7 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals – June 2 at 7 p.m.
Cable Advisory Committee – June 8 at 7:30 p.m.

HARDWICK

Recycling Commission – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Paige Library Trustees – May 6 at 7 p.m.
Gilbertville-Wheelwright Sewer Commissioners – May 10 at 6 p.m.
Board of Selectmen – May 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Council on Aging – May 13 at 9:30 a.m.
Gilbertville Public Library – May 14 at 4 p.m.
Gilbertville Water District – May 18 at 5:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission – May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

HUBBARDSTON

Open Space Committee – April 29 and May 25 at 7 p.m.
Historical Commission – May 1 at 10 a.m.
Conservation Commission – May 4 at 7 p.m.
Planning Board – May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Library Trustees – May 6 at 7 p.m.
Select Board – May 10 and May 24 at 6:30 p.m.

PETERSHAM

Conservation Commission – May 4 at 5:30 p.m.
Open Space and Recreation Committee – May 4 at 6:30 p.m.
Board of Health – May 6 and May 20 at 7 p.m.
Council on Aging – May 10 at 10 a.m.
Nichewaug Inn and Academy Committee 2020 – May 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Cemetery Commission – May 13 at 7 p.m.
Board of Assessors – May 14 at 10 a.m.
Petersham Historic District – May 20 at 7 p.m.
Planning Board – May 27 at 7 p.m.

RUTLAND

Finance Committee – April 29 at 6 p.m.
Master Plan Steering Committee – April 29 at 7 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearing – May 5 at 6:30 p.m.
Annual Town Meeting – May 8 at 6 p.m.
Annual Town Election – May 10 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Prison Camp Public Hearing – May 12 at 6 p.m.

2021 spring turkey season happening now

The 2021 spring turkey hunting season in Massachusetts is April 26–May 22.

Hunters are encouraged to buy hunting licenses and permits online. MassWildlife offices are currently closed, but hunters can purchase licenses and permits online through MassFishHunt or through any license vendor. Minors under 18 years old can also purchase licenses online, click here for details.

Regulation requires that all hunters place an official green safety sticker on their firearm positioned so it's visible when sighting down the barrel.

MassWildlife urges all hunters to use MassFishHunt to report harvested birds online. If they need to report their harvest in person, view a map of check stations open this spring.

MassWildlife offers the following tips.

Follow state guidance related to COVID-19, social distancing, and travel.

Always follow the 10 basic rules of firearm safety.

Be completely sure of your target and what is beyond it before you shoot. Always practice firearm safety.

Don't stalk turkey sounds; it could be another hunter. Sit or stand and call the birds to you.

Do not wear red, white, blue, or black; these colors are associated with male turkeys.

Protect your back. Set up against a large tree or rock and make sure your view isn't obstructed. Don't hide in a place with an obstructed view.

Do not place decoys too close to where you set up. Never carry an exposed decoy or tail fan while hunting; put them in a bag when carrying them in or out of hunting locations.

Consider wearing hunter orange when entering or leaving your hunting area.

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North Brookfield

High school earns grant for early college program

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

NORTH BROOKFIELD – School Committee Chair Maria Tucker opened the meeting on Monday, April 26, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. High School Co-Principal Jeanne Powers said they received a \$30,000 grant to establish an early college program with Quinsigamond Community College. School Superintendent Richard Lind said the program allows a student to take two college level courses in both their junior and senior years, giving them 12 college credits when they finish high school.

Regionalization

Tucker said she received correspondence from Quaboag Regional School District about attending their regionalization study. QRSD also received a grant to explore the possibilities of regionalization. Tucker said she declined the invitation, as North Brookfield's Regionalization Study Committee is meeting that same evening. Tucker said they have been conducting a study looking at regionalization for about a year now with neighboring districts: Quabbin Regional, Quaboag Regional, and Spencer-East Brookfield school districts. She said they could have a possible recommendation on regionalizing at the upcoming meeting.

Books purchased

Tucker and Lind thanked people for purchasing books their elementary school teachers wanted to add to their curriculum. Tucker read a "thank you" letter drafted by the teachers to those who generously donated

these books.

Honthumb's last meeting

Tucker announced it was Vice Chair Ruth Honthumb's last meeting as a School Committee member, as she chose not to run again in the upcoming election on May 3. Tucker said Honthumb has been on the committee for four years and she is "a very thoughtful person in her opinions and decisions" and a "strong supporter of public education."

Student Advisory Council

Megan Bokis, representative from the Student Advisory Council said the members attended a virtual conference on April 9. They dressed in formal attire and ate pizza and snacks, while socially distanced in the school. Bokis said May 17 to 21 will be Spirit Week with themes to be announced later. Teacher appreciation will be celebrated May 3 to 5 with cards and personalized awards put in teacher's mailboxes.

End of year activities

Lind said they are working with class advisors, student leaders, and LPAC to plan graduation. He said the senior class would like an outside graduation. Lind said LPAC will broadcast the graduation. Each student will be able to have six attendees. Lind said the students also want a graduation parade.

Trip to France

Lind said the French teacher would like to plan a trip to France for summer of 2022 or 2023. Lind said this is a "fantastic opportunity" for the students, but he is unsure of how to plan it with the pandemic and overseas travel. The committee agreed to have the teacher begin researching the trip.

Mascot rebranding

Powers said the Mascot Rebranding Committee has narrowed it down to two mascots and will be sending a survey to students soon.

Unified sports

Director of Student Services Mark Minucci said they have started a unified basketball clinic after school on Wednesdays for four weeks, with hopes of starting a team next year. Unified sports teams include students with disability mixed with typical students.

Facilities update

Facilities Manager Martin Shaw said they did a lot of cleaning of the buildings and grounds maintenance during school vacation week. They also had the DPW come up and street sweep the parking lots and driveway. He also thanked those that came and cleaned up trash that was blowing around. Shaw said both outdoor shade structures are completed.

Vote on school choice

The committee voted and approved to continue school choice open seats for the 2021-2022 school year. The open seats were approved as listed.

Co-principal contracts

Lind and Powers divided the responsibilities of junior/senior high school principal last year, making addendum to their contracts. They met with Tucker and decided to continue the same arrangement for next school year. Lind would receive a \$20,000 stipend and Powers would receive \$25,000 stipend. Tucker said this arrangement is in lieu of hiring a permanent principal. The addendum to both contracts was approved.

Postponements and cancellations due to the coronavirus pandemic

Due to snow, the Earth Day River Cleanup on April 17 will now occur on Saturday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to noon at Laviolette Field, Three Rivers.

The Three County Fair, Northampton, closed its office for the winter season and instituted staff cuts and furloughs to help the 202-year-old organization survive the extended shutdown of the fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 health crisis. The cuts will affect each staff member, and includes a fourteen percent salary reduction for senior management and staggered furloughs for all employees. Furloughs could be extended if the fairgrounds are unable to host postponed 2020 events in the spring,

which include over a dozen different horse shows from April through October, plus a variety of concerts and festivals. The Three County Fair entered 2020 on solid ground after completing 2019 as its most successful year since horse racing ended at the fairgrounds in 2005, thanks to a widely attended Labor Day weekend fair, and another full slate of horse shows and festivals. But with reoccurring operational expenses and more than one million dollars in lost 2020 event revenue, the fair will run out of reserves sooner rather than later. The fair received a Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Loan in mid-May, which has since been exhaust-

ed and forgiven by its lender and the SBA. For more information, people may visit www.3countyfair.com.

With the current and near future Covid 19 parameters from the CDC, the Home Builder & Remodelers Association of Western Massachusetts, along with the Eastern States Exposition, has postponed the March Home Show 2021: the "Original" Western Mass Home and Garden Show to Aug. 20 – 22, 2021. The new date will allow for the utmost personal safety for guest & vendors, allow full building occupancy, and reflect the true show attendance numbers of their past shows.

Oakham

Ellenor Downer

edowner@turley.com



BSER to hold spring shavings sale

Bay State Equine Rescue will hold its annual spring shavings sale Saturday, May 1 at Camp Marshall, 92 McCormick Road, Spencer. Pick up time is from 9 to 11 a.m. Minimum order is ten. Cost is \$4.99 up to 199 plastic wrapped bags and \$4.75 for 200 and up. Bags are 3.25 cubic feet compressed and 7.5 cubic feet loose. People may contact Sharon Haley at 508-221-8474 or at sah@baystaterescue.org. There is a limited number available.

Collection for Cradles to Crayons

Gavin Majoy, a Project 351 alumni ambassador will hold a clothing drive for Cradles to Crayons goes to make a "Kid Pack," which is a week's worth of outfits for a child. The "Kid-pack" includes: four shirts, two pairs of pants, one package of underwear, a package of socks, a sweater or sweatshirt, a pair of shoes and one set of pajamas. Cradles to Crayons is asking Project 351 to reach out to communities to gather donations of new or "like new" clothing sizes newborn to youth large (10-12) (new socks, new underwear and new pajamas are also welcome. He will have a collection box for any items donated at the Oakham Congregational Church starting Sunday, April 25 to Sunday, May 16. Any new or "like new" clothing sizes newborn to youth large (10/12) including new socks, new underwear or new pajamas is greatly appreciated. The box will be located in the hallway of the side door of the church. The outside door is open at all times.

Church news

The Oakham Congregational Church will hold in person Sunday worship at 10 a.m. Social distancing will be followed and masks must be worn. Sunday, May 2 is family Sunday and Communion Sunday. There will be no Sunday School. Sunday School resumes Sunday, May 9. All are welcome.

Scout potato take-out fundraiser

WARE – Boy Scout Troop 281 Philmont Crew 2022 is hold a baked potato take-out fundraiser on May 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at All Saints Church Hall on North Street. The cost is \$8 per person for advanced sales and \$10 per person at the door. The take-out dinner includes a huge potato, with all the fixings, a drink and dessert. The fixings include butter, sour cream, green onion, bacon, cheese, chili and broccoli. There will also be a raffle table and a 50/50 raffle, and winners will be contacted. Text or call Dan at 413-297-5886 or Paul at 413-214-1776, or email scoutdad281@charter.net. All proceeds will go toward the crew's trip to Philmont High Adventure Base in New Mexico.

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Opinion

Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Can I claim my Social Security now, then switch to spouse benefits?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I am 62 and have been a homemaker for much of my adult life. I have a small Social Security account from working years ago. My husband is older, has been the major wage earner and will have a good amount in Social Security when he claims. I have been told that I should claim my Social Security now. It's a small amount, about \$475 per month if I claim it now, and \$550 after I'm age 66, so it's not a life changing difference. But if I claim mine now, when my husband reaches his full retirement age can I switch to claiming spousal benefits on his account? I understand I would no longer get mine, but I'm pretty sure my benefit from him will be a much larger amount. Signed: Inquiring Homemaker

Dear Inquiring Homemaker: The simple answer to your question is: yes, if you claim your own small benefit now you can later switch to a higher spouse benefit from your husband when he claims his Social Security. But there are always consequences for claiming Social Security benefits early. The maximum spousal benefit you can get from your husband is 50% of the benefit amount he is entitled to at his own full retirement age. But you only get that full 50% if you delay claiming your own Social Security until you reach your own FRA.

That doesn't mean you can't claim your own reduced benefit early, but it means that when you later get your spousal benefit, it will be less than 50% of your husband's FRA benefit amount. And here's why: Your spouse benefit, when you receive it, will consist of your own earned benefit plus a spousal boost to bring you to your spousal entitlement. Your spousal boost will be the difference between your FRA benefit amount (regardless of when you claim) and half of your husband's FRA benefit amount, and it will be reduced if you haven't yet reached your FRA when your husband claims. That reduced spousal boost will be added to your own actual benefit (reduced if you claim at 62), which will yield a spouse benefit less than 50% of your husband's FRA benefit. Said another way, when your husband claims at his FRA, you'll get a reduced spousal boost added to your own already reduced age 62 Social Security retirement benefit. I can't put this into dollar terms for you without knowing your husband's FRA benefit amount.

FYI, if your age 62 benefit amount is \$475 then your personal benefit amount at your FRA should be about \$670. Essentially, the longer you wait to claim your own Social Security, the more your spousal benefit will be because the spousal boost will be added to the benefit you're already receiving. Your spousal benefit reaches maximum (which is 50% of your husband's FRA amount) at your FRA but remember that your husband must be collecting his Social Security for you to claim a spouse benefit.

So, here's the bottom line: you can claim your own Social Security at age 62, but the benefit amount you get will be reduced by 29%. If your husband claims at his FRA, you will get a spousal boost at that time, but the amount of the spousal boost will be reduced because you will not have reached your FRA at that time. The only way you will get the full 50% of your husband's FRA benefit amount is by waiting until your own FRA to claim Social Security. However, since your spousal benefit will be the highest amount available to you, waiting and claiming yours at the same time your husband claims his, would also be a prudent strategy to lessen the "penalty" for claiming your benefits early.

One final caution: Any time Social Security benefits are claimed early (before FRA) there is an "earnings test" which limits how much can be earned from working before Social Security takes back some benefits. Please keep this in mind if you should decide to go back to work at any time before you reach your full retirement age.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org.

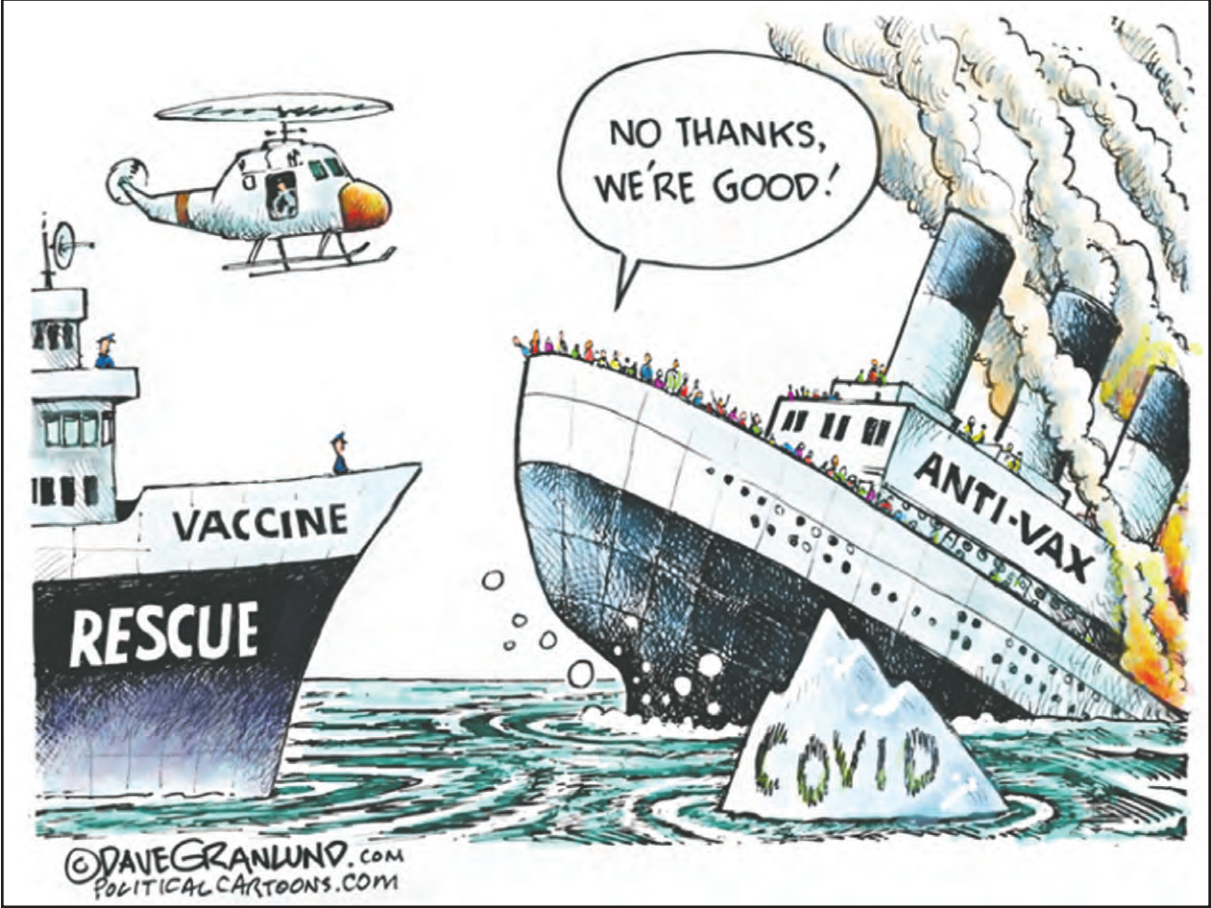
Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

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In Past Pages

5 years ago (May 5, 2016)

Selectmen received seven applicants to serve on the police chief search committee. They decided to have a five-member committee. At the suggestion of Town Administrator Heather Lemieux, they amended the original motion to include two alternates. Selectmen Lief Ericson made a motion to appoint Steve Boudreau, Greg Devine, Kathy Howard, Lester Paquin and Richard Whipple as regular members and Dennis Fleming and James T. Higgins as the two alternates. Selectman Charles Chase seconded the motion. Ericson and Chase were in favor with selectman Richard Jankauskas abstaining.

The Oakham Historical Association would like to thank all the participants, who attended the museum's first open house of the season, with a special thank you to the many volunteers, who pitched in to help, the Oakham Police Department, who directed traffic all afternoon and to the people, who generously donated to the Museum's Building Fund. The star of the Saturday afternoon show was Oakham's 1860s hearse that had not been in public for over 50 years. Also on display on the front law were a late 1800s carriage built in Oakham by William Sanford Crawford and an early 1800s sleigh once owned by Reverend Daniel Tomlinson, the first Congregational minister in town.

The Excursion Group will be traveling by school bus to Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School Wednesday, May 11 to enjoy lunch at the school's Mountain Room Restaurant. Once each year, they send one of their buses to transport the group to Monty Tech, so there will be no charge to the driver for this trip Limit is 32.

10 years ago (May 5, 2011)

About a dozen people gathered at the Hubbardston Public Library last Saturday for the town charter public forum. Town Charter Committee members talked to participants in small groups to explain their goals and to elicit feedback from residents. Saturday's forum focused on the executive branch of town government. The committee issued a survey asking the following questions. How many members should serve on the Board of Selectmen? Should the town administrator serve as the chief operations officer? Should town employees be allowed to serve as elected officials? Would a revised town charter make town government more efficient? Vice chairman of the committee, Roger Knipe, said the survey was emailed to town residents and to date the committee has received about 100 responses.

American Legion Post 2 and Auxiliary, South Barre Road, will be holding its annual Memorial Day chicken barbecue on Monday, May 30 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. There will also be a raffle, \$1 a chance or a book of 6 for \$5. First prize is \$100, second prize \$50 and third and fourth prizes \$25.

Broadband Committee co-chair-

LOOK BACK

Woman's Club Officers - 1989



File photo

The Barre Woman's Club held its first meeting of the 1989-1990 season recently at the American Legion Hall on Mechanic Street. The meeting began with a covered dish supper, followed by a program by Elaine McNanna on pressed flowers. Shown are this year's officers of the organization, from left Hazel Wyman, recording secretary; Barbara Warren, treasurer; Roberta Grandone, federation secretary and Melinda Cheney, president.

man, Roy Nielson reported to Petersham selectmen that all five members of the committee met on May 2. Each member took home a packet to review in order to get current and updated on the MassBand project. The committee is considering a door-to-door survey to investigate broadband needs in the community.

25 years ago (May 2, 1996)

The Rev. Emily Preston from Jaffrey, N.H. and New York is the new minister at the Barre Congregational Church. She arrived in Barre this week and will be preaching at the service Sunday at 9:30 a.m. All invited to this special service.

On Wednesday, May 8, students from Quabbin Regional High School environmental science and health classes will participate in a river clean-up project in South Barre. In celebration of National Drinking Water Week, 60 students, in conjunction with the Barre Business Association, will spend the day cleaning the canal along Main Street in South Barre and helping to revitalize the vacant lot near the dam. As part of a unit on the water cycle and water contamination, the students hope that the clean up will focus attention on the need for a safe and abundant water supply.

Selectmen held a hearing on a dog complaint during their Monday night meeting. Steven Clark of Walnut Hill Road had complained that two German shepherd dogs owned by his neighbor, John Gallagher were running loose and threatening him and his family. He requested the dogs be evicted from town. Dog officer Elaine Bosler said she had received four complaints about the dogs and had investigated. Bosler said, "I stopped up at Mr. Gallagher's house last week. The babysitter was there. There was a shepherd tied in the front and a shepherd tied in the back. I didn't go near the house."

She said when dogs are tied, they often become very protective. Bosler said Gallagher's dogs were

territorial and should be penned in." Gallagher said his dogs didn't go out of his yard but Clark gave selectmen pictures showing German shepherd dogs in the road. Selectmen by unanimous vote ordered Gallagher to fence the dogs within three weeks and advised him the dogs should never be off his property unless they were on a leash.

38 years ago (May 5, 1983)

Dorothy J. Banks has officially taken over as editor of The Barre Gazette, after serving as a staff member for more than four years. A native of Southborough, Mrs. Banks is a graduate of Algonquin Regional High School, with the Class of 1967 and she has taken college level courses in writing at various schools. She is no stranger to the newspaper business as her mother, Velma and brother, Phillip, both work for the Enterprise Sun in Marlboro. Mrs. Banks has been a resident of Barre for the past five years and since that time has adopted the town and become involved in community life and an enthusiastic town booster. "I got a job at the newspaper by being in the right place at the right time," Dotty says. She visited the office twice to file an employment application and the second time former editor, Teddie Fullam was there. Teddie set up an interview for Dotty with publisher Pat Turley and the rest is history.

The Barre Board of Selectmen agreed to change the date of the Annual Town Meeting from May 21 to June 18, per request of the Budget and Finance Committee. The postponement will allow the town to consider eligible state aid, therefore enabling the Finance Committee to make "reasonable decisions" regarding town budgets.

Incumbent Stephen J. Cronin was easily re-elected in Monday's New Braintree town election as selectman. Mr. Cronin polled 213 votes to 74 votes for his challenger, Kenneth L. Uraciuc of Barre Road. Also re-elected were two other incumbents Betty Davis as assessor and James Brown as constable

Guest Column

Adventures of Gertrude the Cat

By Ruth Robinson

Dear Folks,
I don't know just what to say this morning. Missy got a letter from a friend in California, who likes my stories and she inquired as to how I got my name.

I really don't know, but Missy told me all about the letter that came about the Patron Saint of Cats called Gertrude. It seems that Gertrude was also a nun. A saint I might be able to swallow, but being a nun never. As you know, I am not always good and mess things up for Missy and nuns always do good things for others.

Missy told me I got my name from a dear friend, who had passed away. Then she told me about her brother's cat named Waldo. I think he was named for a distant family cousin named Waldo. It really makes no difference anyway.

Yesterday after Missy unpacked my laundry, I found a long piece of bamboo, which had broken off the basket. I hauled it into the closet and then to my trinket box in the computer room. It hardly fit in the box because it was so long.

After that, I wondered what to do when Missy said she was going to visit a sick friend. Oh boy, I have wanted to get back in that bag of cloth that is still on the floor. It is too large for the cupboard with all the other stuff in there. Goodie, I am able to put my teeth on some of that cloth and pull out big pieces. This one is narrow and very long. I had already dragged it across the kitchen floor and could go further, but maybe I should stop and see what else I can pull out.

However, it is getting late and Missy will be home soon so I guess this "saint" better find a place to curl up for a nap and be out of sight.

Wear masks folks.
Love,
Gertrude



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BARRE GAZETTE

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Serenity Hill Sampler

by Jane McCauley

Another month is just about over. May will bring Mayflowers and lots of spring blooms. It is fun to watch the various shrubs on Serenity Hill to see what is blooming next. Right now there is Forsythia and Flowering Quince out. The Scilla, daffodils and hyacinths are in bloom and each day more of the hostas are showing their points. The Epimediums are also sprouting.

I went to Walmart and bought three more orchids as they seem to do well in my east window. I also bought some fertilizer for them. While I was there, I got another flat of pansies and planted them in the window box of the wood shed. I also was tempted to purchase two annuals in shades of yellow and purple and put them in a big pot on the deck. I plan to bring them in each night if it gets cold. I hope I remember.

In two of the big pots I have on the deck, I plant coleus as they do well in the shade, but that will be later. I have the potting soil in all the pots that I plan to plant at the end of May.

This week I thought the readers would like a chicken recipe that sounds like it would be easy to make.

PREACHER'S CHICKEN CASSEROLE

*1 stick margarine or butter
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 can of cream of mushroom soup
1 can cream of celery soup
2 cans water
8 chicken breasts (halved)
1 1/2 cups uncooked rice*

Melt butter in large saucepan. Add all soups and water. In an ungreased 9 by 13 inch casserole place the rice across the bottom. Pour a little more than 1/2 of the soup mixture into the casserole. Mix soup with rice. Lay chicken breasts on top of rice. Dribble remaining soup mixture over the top. Bake, uncovered at 275 degree for 3 hours

This seems like a long time to bake, but the temperature is low. I wonder if you could reduce the time by using a higher temperature. I am sure the chicken will be very tender.

This and That

Besides working out in the yard a lot it is nice because the May flies are not out bad yet. I am trying to get everything done before they come out.

I made the Hubbardston Senior Center volunteers some oatmeal/raisin/pecan cookies. I hope they enjoyed them. They are such good workers.

I haven't been to the senior center for any of the events, but hopefully they are having some attendance.

I did get rid of some Firebush that is illegal to have now so that was a good project done.

When I asked in this column if anyone had sand boxes any more, I got a response from a grandmother, who said they have one and their grandchildren love to play in it. It is good to hear.

It important that youngsters get out in the fresh air to play games and such. Too many of them are just playing games on their cell phones and iPads.

Have a good week and try to get in a walk or two.

In My Backyard by Ellenor Downer

White throated sparrows

I have two or three white-throated sparrows eating dropped seeds under my feeder. The white-throated sparrow is 6 1/2 inches long and as its name implies has a white throat. It has a white eyebrow with a yellow mark in front. The crown is dark with a white center stripe and the breast gray with a few faint streaks. The back is streaked with dark lines. There are two morphs of this species white and tan, which is based on the color of the eyebrows. The female may have less bold pattern on the head, duller yellow mark and more streaking on breast. This sparrow feeds on the ground, eating weed seeds, grain, fruit and insects. At feeders, it eats cracked corn, millet and sunflower seeds in trays or scattered on the ground.

The female lays four to six light blue-green eggs with dark marks in a cup shaped nest of grasses lined with hair and rootlets placed on the ground under a small tree or shrub. The breeding pair usually has one from each morph, either tan morph male and white morph female or visa versa. The white-throated song is a series

of quivering notes "sweet sweet Canada Canada Canada." Its call is a "tseeet" when birds are in flocks and a "pink" in alarm.

Leucistic robin

A Petersham resident sent an email about a "strange" bird she and her daughter saw at the end of the driveway recently. She said, "We wondered what it was. [It] looked like a robin, but it had a white head and white feathers on the side. [It] hopped around like a robin and we did see a regular robin about six feet from it." A friend of my daughter called this leucism, not albino because it was not all white. She said, "My daughter saw it another day and most likely it is nesting with the other robin between our driveway and the next one."

Juncos

As of April 27, I am still seeing juncos at the feeder, but not as many. Soon they will head north to Canada for the breeding season and will not return until the fall.

Hummingbird feeders

My brother put out his hummingbird feeder this week, but he has not seen any yet. I put out one nectar feeder on April 27. Usually, hummingbirds arrive in my yard

around Mother's Day but I wanted the feeder filled and ready in case I have an early arrival.

Warblers

My brother, who lives in Sutton, saw a yellow-rumped warbler this past Sunday. May is warbler month and soon people will be seeing returning warblers, rose-breasted grosbeaks, Baltimore orioles, indigo buntings and more.

Displaying Tom turkey

I saw a pair of wild turkeys near the library in Oakham on April 26. The female crossed Maple Street first. The male stayed on the corner of the library lawn and briefly displayed his tail feathers before running off to join the female. Tuesday morning I saw just the Tom turkey on the grass near the library parking lot. He had his tail feathers fanned out and was strutting about. I did not see a female.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

ALONE

older now her beauty remains
time tarnished yet
ethereal and radiant
her hair gone white
skin translucent parchment

days are filled with
light and life
learning to conquer
small tasks that bring
joy with their completion

a trek up the stairs
and down or out by
the road to retrieve the mail
to fix a meager dinner
and gratify an unhungry appetite

she toils each day
and the next and the next
when thinking not
of yesterdays yet yesterdays
are her salvation and times ago

when strength did avail
and the laughter of children
the tears of children
the love of children
sweet children

were her life
when a life well-lived
was what you did
and who you were
and family was everything

what she wants this day
what she longs for this day
is simply to be forgotten

— Walter Nutter

Springfield Armory offers virtual summer writing camp

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Armory National Historic Site offers a virtual summer writing camp for grades 5 through 8 in collaboration with the Western Massachusetts Writing Project. The camp will run from 9 to 11 a.m. during the week of July 19 through July 23. Scholarships are available.

This program, a partnership between the Springfield Armory National Historic Park and the Western Massachusetts Writing Project, incorporates elements of history, writing and engineering design. Using primary sources from the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, as well as other National Park sites, participants will explore how impacts

of the Industrial Revolution in the Pioneer Valley laid the groundwork for modern innovation and technology.

Activities are steeped in STEM based activities including narrative and informational writing, researching historical industrial processes, exploration of invention patent design and a final project, which integrates what we know of the past as we look ahead to the future.

Campers can register at <https://www.umass.edu/wmwp/youth-writing-programs>. For registration questions contact the Western Mass Writing Project at wmwp@english.umass.edu. This program is supported in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation with sup-

port of Union Pacific

Railroad and other donors from across the country. Scholarships are available for families that need support.

The Springfield Armory National Historic Site is the location of the nation's first armory (1794-1968) and was established by George Washington. The site includes historic grounds, buildings, and the world's largest historic American military firearms collection. The museum is currently closed to the public due to an ongoing construction project. For more information people may call 413-734-8551, check the website at www.nps.gov/spar or go to www.facebook.com/sparnhs.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, continued from page 1

ing with the Hardwick COA on hiring an outreach worker and Hardwick would use its formula grant to cover the cost.

Clarkson said the senior center was open and today attendees played Bingo, had coffee with an officer from the Barre Police Department and played cards. Meals still were not being served at this time. Clarkson said the senior center building was going on 17 years old and would be needing a new roof. The roof had two leaks and some of the vapor barrier had to be replaced due to water damage. Clarkson would be submitting an article for town meeting for the roof replacement.

Library

Carol Witt, Woods Memorial Library director, also participated remotely. She presented a regular plan and what she called "Plan B" to the finance committee. She said the regular plan was a level funded budget as requested. The only increase was step increases for staff, but did not include a COLA. Witt said her salary increased mid-year in FY21 so FY22 included a full year of the new salary. She said the library must maintain the state materials expenditure guideline to receive state aid and maintain its certification. The materials expenditure, which includes books, videos and public technology, must be 19% of the operating budget. She said other line items remained the same.

Witt said "Plan B" would increase hours for two assistants from about 10 hours to 15 hours each week. The extra hours would maintain the required two staff members on each floor, a safety issue. It would increase the budget by about \$4,475. She said the library certainly needed more hours than that, but it would be "a step in the right direction." The other increase in the plan would be to increase both the library supplies and office supplies line items from \$400 each to \$1,000 each. She said the \$400 did not cover the supplies. Witt said the library would be opening either the end of May or early June. Witt said, "We look forward to have everyone back."

Town administrator

Town administrator Jessica Sizer said the senior center roof replacement was on the town's capital plan for 2025. She said replacing the Barre Town Hall roof was more pressing than the senior center as shingles continued to fall off the town hall roof.

SELECTMEN continued from page 1

Williamsville Road was on the list for paving and drainage. Selectmen also approved repaving of paved section of Old Coldbrook Road, the cost not to exceed \$60,000. The board reauthorized the paving of Grogan Road for sometime in mid to late June and would notify the Department of Public Works superintendent Jason Pimental.

COVID 19 update

Town administrator Jessica Sizer reported the Barre Board of Health and the senior center director have been helping people sign up for vaccine clinics. She said Rutland was doing a great job with the regional vaccination clinics and their statistics were better than the state average.

Inter municipal agreement

Selectmen also met with Hardwick to discuss a possible inter municipal agree-

ment for ambulance service. An article on that section of the meeting appeared in last week's Barre Gazette.

Other business

Selectmen appointed Lisa Marselle to fill a vacancy on the library board of trustees caused by the death of Lester Paquin. They also accepted the resignation of Jim Person from the Fire Station Building Committee and appointed Richard Glidden to fill his position.

Selectmen approved the license

renewal for A & B Marketing. They also approved Reclassification of the town administrator administrative assistant and police department administrative assistant from Class 3 to Class 5. The board received a letter from a Ware resident regarding the closure of services at Mary Lane Hospital by Bay State Hospital. Selectman Marshall said she would like to review the letter and make sure the statements made were accurate. The board will follow up and draft a letter.

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Grandparents
& Friends
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Where is this?



Turley Publications Photo by Ellenor Downer

This week's mystery photo is from North Brookfield. If any readers know where this photo was taken, they may email edowner@turley.com or call the Barre Gazette at 413-967-3505, extension 100 with their answer by noon on Monday, May 3. The names of those that correctly guessed the location will appear in next week's edition. Dick Clark, Stephen Craven, Barbara Laborde, Raul Laborde, Evelyn Luukko, Bruce Towner, Joan Raymond, Jeremy Varnum and Phillip Warbasse correctly identified the photo. Last week's photo was the emus at Kip's Christmas Tree Farm in the center of New Braintree as seen from West Brookfield Road.

SCHOOL CUTS, continued from page 1

\$6,508,168.20 (after offsets, pandemic reliefs and state and federal rural aid). This is a 5.67% increase over last year's budget. The total increase over last year's budget is \$349,926.20 over fiscal 2021.

Lind said that teachers and administrators gave up their contractually obligated cost of living increases in fiscal 2021, saving over \$100,000, but that those increases are due in fiscal 2022. Lind said that the fiscal 2022 budget is "not giving people a double raise. That is inaccurate and unfair."

Tucker said in 16 years they have only increased the school budget 1.7% and that the cost of

living keeps going up.

Reductions would be necessary

Lind said cutting more than \$1 million from the fiscal 2022 budget could see a reduction in programs, transportation and staffing. "You can't have a program without staffing," Lind said. This cut could "have a huge impact on our kids and families. That is really to me, unacceptable," he said. With this cut, class sizes could also increase and course offerings could decrease. Lind said they have a lot of work to do to try and meet that number.

Tucker asked why the government funds could not be used to offset this cut. Lind said they are meant to be spent over several years, such as the pandemic relief

SelectBoard, FinCom discuss FY22 budget

By Paula Ouimette
Staff Writer

HARDWICK -- A joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:36 p.m. on Monday, April 26 via Zoom, to discuss the department requested fiscal 2022 town budget.

Police budget

Hardwick Police Chief James Ayotte was present to discuss the factors causing his budget to increase for fiscal 2022. He said police reform has created new, unfunded mandates including changing part-time officers to full-time officers as of July 1, 2021. "There will have to be a bridge academy for every officer that's part-time now, to maintain their training; it will be a \$200 training per officer," Ayotte said. The department will also be required to send a cruiser to use in Emergency Vehicle Operator Course training for 40 hours. Ayotte said he expects many of their policies and procedures to change with the reform.

Finance Committee Chair Cheryl Wolfe asked Ayotte if that meant they would not have part-time officers anymore. Chief Ayotte said their part-time officers would become full-time trained officers, which could lead them to seek full-

time employment in other municipalities.

He said they have three front-line and two support vehicles, and they are all paid off. He is seeking another vehicle this year on a three-year lease. They will be replacing an older cruiser, but keeping the old one for the EVOC training, rather than risk damaging a newer cruiser.

Wolfe said it looks like the fiscal 2022 budget will be similar to last year and to "think about what people can do without." Selectmen Chairman Kelly Kemp said they knew this year was not going to be much better than last year.

Cemetery budget increase

Town Administrator Theresa Cofske said they received a letter in regard to the cemetery caretaker bid. Cemetery Commissioner Paula Roberts said they went out for bid for a caretaker. Duties include maintaining three cemeteries, the common, being available for burials, being available for installation of monuments and markers, and spring and fall cleanups. Roberts said they received one bid this year from longtime caretaker Michael Judycki. His rates have increased by \$16,000, making his bid for fiscal 2022 total \$36,633.

Roberts said the only piece of equipment the Cemetery Commission owns is a 1980s Ford tractor, which is not capable

of doing the work necessary. She said they have had to depend on Highway Superintendent Martin Gryszowka, as well as Judycki, to use their heavy-duty equipment for excavation of burial lots.

Roberts said she has talked to many neighboring towns which have their highway department or parks and recreation committees oversee cemetery caretaking responsibilities. She was not sure if this were an option the town would be interested in pursuing.

Roberts said they typically sell three to five cemetery lots a year at \$750 each, five to eight burials at \$350 each and five to 10 markers/monuments at \$250 each. "We don't bring in much," she said. Quink suggested reaching out to other towns and seeing if regionalizing would be another possibility. Selectmen member H. Robert Ruggles said he would discuss the possibility of having the highway department cover the caretaking with Gryszowka.

Emergency services

Quink said the proposed budget of \$100,000 is not "far off on where we're going to be." Ware's EMS coverage assessment for partial coverage of Hardwick is \$77,000, and Barre's proposal for partial coverage was around \$22,500, for a combined total of \$99,500. Quink said they are still in the beginning stages of

communicating with Barre about an agreement between the towns.

Municipal building repairs

Town Clerk Ryan J. Witkos said he checked the furnace when he was in the office Friday, and there was a substantial amount of water around it. After having a heating technician look at it, they determined the leak was in the wall. To prevent further leaking, they had to shut down the furnace. Cofske suggested reaching out to RJ McDonald or B.E.C. for estimates. Kemp asked Cofske if she could contact them tomorrow. Cofske said she would contact B.E.C. as they are familiar with their heating system.

Kemp said she spoke with the building inspector about the handicap access to the door of the municipal office building needing to be repaired, especially when they reopen to the public.

Derogatory comment

During the meeting, a participant in the Zoom meeting referred to Cofske by a derogatory term. Quink, who was the host of the meeting, quickly admonished the participant and asked that rude comments be kept out of the meeting.

Another joint meeting

Kemp proposed another joint meeting on Monday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. between the SelectBoard, Finance Committee and Highway Department.





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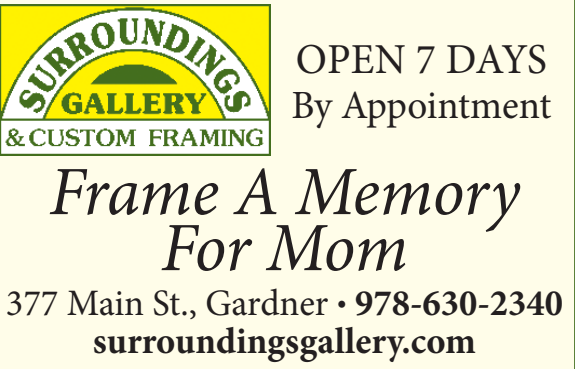
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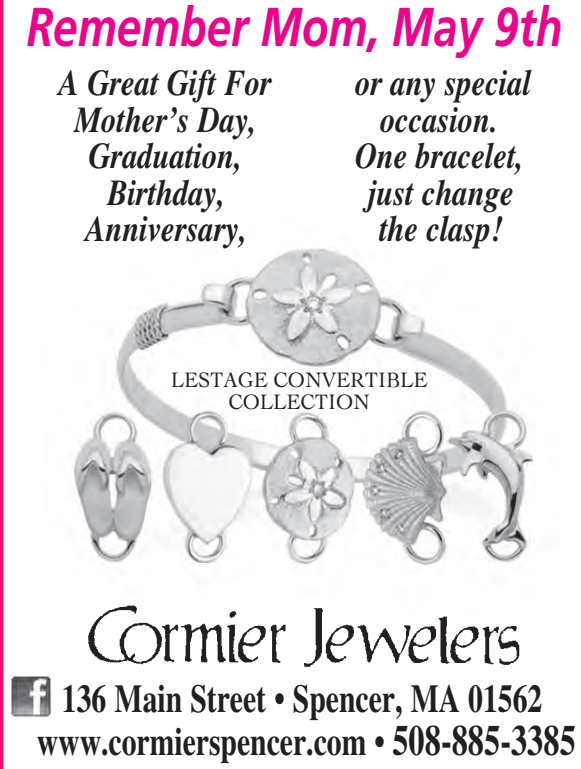
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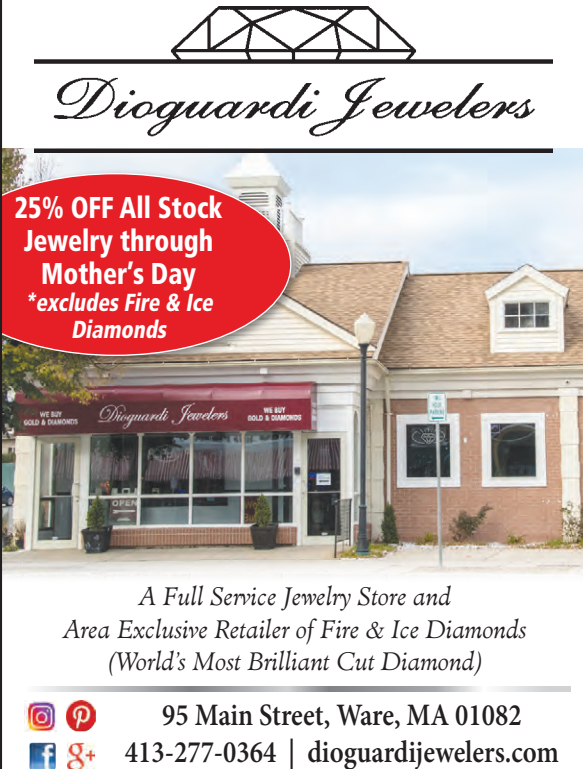
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Spring sports to commence after long wait

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – On June 15, 2019, Katelyn Thompson and the Minnechaug Regional High School softball team defeated Pittsfield High School to win the Western Massachusetts Division 1 championship.

Since around that time, spring sports, baseball, softball, lacrosse, tennis, and boys volleyball have not been played.

The COVID-19 pandemic stopped high school sports in their track in early March 2020.

Several delays were made to the spring sports season until an unprecedented cancellation took place when in-person school was cancelled for the remainder for the 2019-2020 school year. It robbed Class of 2020 players in all spring sports their final curtain call, and their final opportunity to fight for sectional, individual, and state success in their respective sports.

Next week, beginning on May 5, Granby lacrosse will face Monson with the Mustangs hosting the boys and the Rams hosting the girls. That action will be among the

first spring sports to take place in nearly 23 months.

In June, spring sports will participate in sectional tournaments for the first time since March 2020 when the winter sports held their tournaments. Tournaments were not held for the first three seasons of this school year.

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association sponsored a “Fall 2” season that wrapped up just last week with football action leading the way along with some basketball, indoor track, and girls volleyball among teams that were unable to partici-

pate in the first two seasons of the year. Cheerleaders also had the opportunity to participate in the Fall 2 season.

Practices for spring sports began earlier this week and it is a very quick turnaround to get games underway, with several starting on Wednesday, May 5. This only allows for about seven or eight practice sessions before that date.

But because of unpredictable weather coming out of the winter, spring sports are used to a condensed schedule, especially baseball and softball, which often need more ideal weather in order to play

games as soggy and muddy fields can make for more dangerous play.

Sports are scheduled to run from May 5 through the middle of June. Like the previous seasons this school year, most of the sports will play about 12 games. Seasons in the fall and winter ran for about 10 to 12 games, but spring sports often lend themselves to more games under a condensed schedule. Most teams are scheduled for 12 games with some playing more depending individual circumstances.

The more important part is that in addition to a 12-game schedule, teams who qualify will get

the chance to participate in tournaments, which will result in more games.

Athletes are still being required to wear masks to participate in sports, though it is possible restrictions could ease as the spring season progresses based on the vaccination effort and currently dropping case numbers. Surrounding states like Connecticut and New Hampshire have also started easing restrictions as well.

Most schedules for the spring have been posted to the MIAA website as well as some school websites.

Skowyra places fourth in 1500-meter

DELHI, N.Y. – The SUNY Cobleskill men’s and women’s track & field teams traveled to SUNY Delhi on Saturday for the 2021 North Atlantic Conference Invitational/Bronco Classic hosted by SUNY Delhi at the college’s Track & Field Complex. The Fighting Tigers brought home a number of solid efforts at the non-scoring event.

On the men’s side, senior jumper Tyler Brado, St.

Johnsville, N.Y., Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville High School, top performance at the meet for Cobleskill winning the high jump by clearing a height of 1.90 meters (6’2 ¼”) to meet the NCAA Atlantic Regional Meet qualifying standard.

The Fighting Tigers also received strong showings from junior distance runner Dillon VanDemortel, Newark, N.Y., Newark High School, placed

third overall in the 5000-meter run with a time of 16:36.68 and form sophomore mid-distance runner Tucker Skowyra, Hardwick, Mass. Quabbin Regional High School, who placed fourth overall in the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:34.69.

On the women’s side, sophomore Shania Steria, Booneville, N.Y., Adirondack High School, turned in the top effort for the team placing fifth overall in the

800-meter run with a time of 2:53.51 while sophomore sprinter Brianna Fernandez, Rome, N.Y., Rome Free Academy, placed sixth overall in the 100-meter dash with a mark of 15.47 seconds.

The Fighting Tigers will next be in action on Friday, April 30 when they compete at the Bronco Afternoon Classic hosted by SUNY Delhi beginning at 3:30 p.m.

WSU sweeps doubleheader over Bucs

BUZZARDS BAY – The Worcester State University softball team defeated Mass. Maritime twice Saturday afternoon in a non-conference doubleheader at Rollins Field. Worcester State won game one 7-3 before defeating the Buccaneers 12-3 in six innings in game two.

With the wins, Worcester State improves to 5-12-1 on the season. Game 1 - Worcester State 7, Mass. Maritime 3

Worcester State first-year Emily Bartlett (Lowell, Mass.) threw a complete game in game one to pick up her third victory of the season. The rookie allowed just three earned runs and recorded 10 strikeouts in the win.

Worcester opened the scoring in the top of the second inning, scoring three runs on a ground-out, a Liv Larson (Marlborough, Mass.) triple, and an infield single that scored Larson.

The Bucs were held in the bottom of the second though they would strike in the bottom of the third. They scored three runs to tie the game at 3-3 on a Malarie Pittsley double and a Maia Ostromecki single. That would be all the scoring for the Bucs as the Lancers went on to take the lead in the top of the fifth inning on a Samantha Stake (Worcester, Mass.) double.

Worcester State added three more runs in the sixth, taking a 7-3 lead which would end up being the final of game one.

Larson went 3-for-3 in game one with two RBI and three runs scored from the nine spot in the lineup. First-years Bartlett, Grace

Adams (Leominster, Mass.), and Lauren Dube (Leominster, Mass.) all had multi-hit games for the Lancers.

Game 2 - Worcester State 12, Mass. Maritime 3 (6 innings) Junior Jen Thorburn (Groton, Mass.) earned her first victory in a Lancer uniform, allowing just one earned run on four hits over six innings with eight strikeouts.

The Buccaneers got on the board first in game two, scoring twice in the bottom of the first. Both runs came across due to Worcester State throwing errors.

Down 2-0 in the second, the Lancers scored three times to take a 3-2 after one and a half innings played. No one scored again until the bottom of the fifth when the Bucs tied the game at 3-3 on a wild pitch that scored Turley.

The Lancers went on to score nine runs in the top of the sixth inning on seven hits and a bases loaded walk. Unable to get the game back within eight runs in the bottom of the inning, the game ended due to the eight-run rule, 12-3 in favor of the Lancers.

The Lancers put together 17 hits in game two, three apiece from Adams, Stake and sophomore Rachel Sinclair (Westminster, Mass.). Bartlett, Thorburn, and first-year Brynna Meeker (Northwood, N.H.) all had two-hit games.

Worcester State will be back in action on Friday afternoon for a MASCAC doubleheader against Fitchburg State. First pitch in game one on wsulancers.com/broadcast is slated for 4 p.m.

‘Pole’ takes first race in Granite Series

STAFFORD, Conn. — It didn’t take long for Joey “Pole” Polewarczyk Jr. to figure out the half-mile of Stafford Motor Speedway on Saturday, April 24. The defending Granite State Pro Stock Series champion took the lead on lap 15 from Eddie MacDonald and never looked back en route to the triumph in the Casagrande Builders 75.

Pole crossed the line over six seconds ahead of hometown favorite Cory Casagrande, with seven-time Seekonk Speedway champion David Darling finishing third.

“What an awesome track, thanks to Stafford for having the Granite State Pro Stock Series,” Pole said. “That’s one of the best cars I’ve ever had. It really came in during the race. I loved that there were almost no cautions, and we were able to run our own pace. It feels really good to come down here to Stafford and win.”

While Pole pulled away from a 24-car field, only a few cautions slowed the action. Early, it was a caution for a stopped Rick Duzlak in turn one, then an accident collected both Mike O’Sullivan and Craig Bushey on lap 11. From there, the caution flag was never used again. Pole drove by



Submitted photo
Joey “Pole” Polewarczyk Jr. took the win in the first race of the year at Stafford Motor Speedway.

McDonald and left the rest of the field behind him, with DJ Shaw, Casagrande and Darling battling for second over the final 30 laps.

Casagrande got by Shaw for second on lap 56, with Darling on his bumper — then the two battled for the runner-up spot for the final 20 laps. Casagrande would beat Darling by a small margin at the finish.

MacDonald finished fourth, while former series champion Derek Griffith rallied from an early pit stop to round out the top-five. Devin O’Connell was sixth, followed by Shaw, Gabe Brown, Derek Gluchacki and Angelo Belsito.

Shaw, Griffith and Casagrande won heat races earlier in the day, while Shaw also set fast time in

time trials.

The Granite State Pro Stock Series returns to the track on Sunday, May 2 at Monadnock Speedway.

For more information on the Granite State Pro Stock Series, visit gspss.net and follow the series on social media.

THE FINISH:

1. Joey Pole
2. Cory Casagrande
3. David Darling
4. Eddie MacDonald
5. Derek Griffith
6. Devin O’Connell
7. DJ Shaw
8. Gabe Brown
9. Derek Gluchacki
10. Angelo Belsito
11. Mike Mitchell
12. Bryan Kruzcek
13. Mike Scorzelli
14. Kevin Casper
15. Josh King
16. Tyler Tomassi
17. Alexander Pearl
18. Luke Hinkley
19. Casey Call
20. Bobby Pelland III
21. Adam Gray
22. Craig Bushey
23. Mike O’Sullivan
24. Rick Duzlak

Sign up for Quabbin Valley Baseball League

REGION – The Quabbin Valley Baseball League is an age 28-and-over league which plays its games Sundays at 10 a.m. beginning in late April and concluding in late August. It is a six-team league and a 15-game schedule with all teams getting at least one playoff game at the end of August.

The league is seeking new players to join in the fun. The cost to play in 2021 is \$192.50 and registration can be found at www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org. Games are mostly being played this year in Easthampton and South Hadley. Players who wish to pitch in the league must be 30-years-old.

Sign-ups will continue to be open as the league still has open

roster spots for new players. Players who sign up in the first few weeks of the season should be able to be placed with a team.

The league’s first games are scheduled for Sunday, April 25. For the 2021 season, there is a mask-wearing rule, as well as modifications that prohibit any type of spitting or close contact, and players are required to take out all trash they bring in with them. The league allows the use of BBCOR-certified -3 bats as well as wood bats. Games are nine innings and all players who participate get to hit and play the field. For more information or to contact someone from the league, go to the league’s website.

Valley Wheel Baseball seeks new players

REGION – The Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League is looking for new players for the 2021 season, which is set to begin at the end of April. Players who are 28-years-old prior to June 1 are eligible to play in the league this season, however, only those 30 by June 1 are eligible to pitch. The league includes six teams and there is a 15-game season that begins on Sunday, April 25. Games are 12 Sundays, a special Mother’s Day weekend Saturday game, and two weekday night games under the lights. The season ends the final week of July

with the playoffs for the top four teams during the first two weeks of August. While tryouts have completed, there are still open roster spots among the six teams in the league. The league will continue to accept applications for new players throughout the season. All players bat and every player spends at least four innings in the field in a nine-inning game. The league will be playing with some minor modifications due to the COVID-19 pandemic to start. For more information, please contact League Commissioner Jim Nason at wheel12@comcast.net.

Monadnock opener set for this weekend

WINCHESTER, N.H. – On Saturday, May 1, Monadnock Speedway will be back in action for the 2021 Season. Although there will be some COVID19 restriction that will remain in place for capacity and social distancing, the speedway has added on 1400 more seats to accommodate the restrictions.

The season opener will be a two-day event this year with the Tri Track Modified Series as the headline on Saturday (May 1) and Granite State Pro Stock Series on (May 2). There will be a practice session held on Friday (April 30) from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The divisions scheduled on Saturday are 100 Lap Tri Track Modified Series,

NHSTRA Modifieds, Pro Truck Series, Mini Stocks, Pure Stocks, Young Guns and Classic Lites. Race time is at 5 p.m. The Sunday line up will include 100 Lap Granite State Pro Stock Series, NHSTRA Modifieds, Late Models, Street Stocks, NELCAR Legends and Enduros. Race Time is at 2 p.m.

Advanced General Admission Tickets and Reserved Camping Sites area available for purchase at www.monadnockspeedway.com. Pit Admission tickets will not be available in advanced and are available for purchase on the day of the event.

For more information, go to the speedway’s website at monadnockspeedway.com or call 603-239-4067.



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Education

HCC plans virtual graduation

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is planning a virtual commencement for spring and preparing to welcome students, faculty and staff safely back to campus for the fall 2021 semester.

HCC’s 75th Anniversary Commencement will be livestreamed on Saturday, June 5, on the HCC website and the college’s social media channels. The college was founded in September, 1946 and will be recognizing the milestone throughout the year.

The virtual commencement will celebrate the class of 2021 as well as the class of 2020. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, HCC made the decision last year to recognize the class of 2020 with a virtual celebration in August 2020 and also invite graduates to participate in a more traditional graduation ceremony this year along with the class of 2021.

Planning for Commencement begins months in advance, and HCC officials made their decision on this year’s ceremony based on conditions in February before new guidelines were announced allowing for limited outdoor and indoor ceremonies.

“Unlike the 2020 celebration, the 2021 ceremony will include traditional Commencement moments with an emphasis on the elements our students told us matter most to them,” said President Christina Royal. Those elements include having student orators from both classes and keynote speeches delivered by the 2020 and 2021 recipients of the Elaine Marieb Chair for Teaching Excellence, HCC’s highest faculty award.

“We will also have a virtual procession and the traditional

reading of names of graduates from both classes along with photographs submitted by members of each class,” Royal said.

In advance of Commencement, HCC will be inviting students to campus on May 6 and 7 to pick up their caps and gowns, graduation gift boxes and lawn signs celebrating their success. President Royal and members of the College Affairs committee will also be there to offer in-person, albeit socially distant, congratulations to the graduates and the opportunity to have their photos taken with the president.

Austin Riffelmacher inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, LA – Austin Riffelmacher of Rutland was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Riffelmacher was initiated at Framingham State University.

Riffelmacher is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni, who have achieved scholarly distinction.

MWCC receives TRAIN grant

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College has been awarded \$122,462 for the 2021 Fiscal Year Training Resources and Internship Network grant program.

The Training Resources and Internship Network grant program, launched in 2016, is designed to support long-term unemployed, under-employed and new entrant adult workers, who seek to enter/reenter the workforce and address this workforce shortage. TRAIN grant funding addresses the needs of adult learners who are new to the state, including immigrants, veterans transitioning to the workforce, previously incarcerated persons, and those with physical and cognitive challenges.

The grant funding will be utilized to provide Certified Nursing Assistant training through the MWCC Adult Education and Training Program. Upon completion, these students will obtain their two-year certifications in CPR and First Aid, AED and sit for the Massachusetts Nurse Aide State Exam.

There will be four cohorts of students in the program, one of which will be an English as a Second Language cohort. The ESOL CNA program offers a unique opportunity that allows students whose first language is not English to train to become CNA’s while simultaneously attending ESOL classes.

The FY21 TRAIN grant program is focused on critical industry sectors, healthcare and information technology, preparing eligible individuals to

secure employment, support their families, and contribute to the Commonwealth’s post-pandemic economic recovery.

“We are honored to receive this award. The TRAIN grant will help us to provide eligible adult students the skills and education they need to move into a career which is both rewarding and vital to our community” state James Vander Hooen, President of Mount Wachusett Community College.

The Adult Education and Training Center at Mount Wachusett Community College offers free classes in Adult Basic Education, high school equivalency preparation, and ESOL classes as well as a Transition to College program which helps adult learners move into degree programs.

SUPERINTENDENT continued from page 1

Inaccuracy 1

“The School Committee has created a wish list of 169 books for the upcoming school year which contains some very disturbing materials and authors. Subjects of these books, along with some of the authors, are inflammatory, age inappropriate and likely to confuse children rather than educate them. Much of the reading is racist against white individuals, encourages gender confusion and/or encourages hate.”

Response: First, it is convenient that the author does not provide people with the list of the children’s books. I would challenge the author to go through this list and identify specifically which titles are inappropriate and why. I would be interested in seeing the author’s credentials as an expert in this area. This list was created by a group of North Brookfield Elementary teachers as books to explore as a staff to determine if they meet the educational goals of the curriculum. These teachers are the educational experts in our community, and they are always researching ways to ensure our students are exposed to many different types

of literature that allow students to read authors and see characters of different races, religions, ethnic backgrounds, gender, disabilities, etc. in the books they read. This is very important in the global community our students are growing up in and supports the vision of our school district which reads; “The North Brookfield Public Schools envision a community where all students will grow to become resilient, adaptable, passionate, confident, curious learners in an evolving and diverse world.”

Inaccuracy 2

“The School Committee has taken it upon itself to remove the longstanding mascot despite over 700 signatures against the action. Those 700+ voices were not even considered.”

Response: The School Committee took up this very controversial subject when they received a letter from a group of concerned citizens and alumni. The School Committee initiated a process by which people could voice their opinions directly to the Committee, both in writing and through testimony. The Committee took everyone’s opinions seriously.

It is interesting to note that during the public comment portion of the meeting, not one individu-

al spoke against the retiring of the “Indian” mascot. The Committee also received feedback from the Native American community. The people the “Indian” mascot is supposed to honor do not view it as an honor. Tribes across Massachusetts, including the Nipmuc nation (tribe that lives in our area), have all issued statements against the use of these nicknames and mascots. Although the Committee understood the controversial nature of this issue, they acted in a way that was respectful of all people in our community, particularly in light of the fact the Massachusetts legislature is currently looking at a bill to make it against the law for public schools to have these types of nicknames and mascots. In the end, the nickname is not what makes the community what it is, it is the people.

Inaccuracy 3

“The School Choice numbers have doubled over the last couple of years.”

Response: The author is mistaken on this point. The School Choice numbers have fluctuated over the last several years, however, they have certainly not doubled. Please see the chart below that outlines several student enrollment categories including School Choice Out information.

Year	Total Students in building	Voc School Students (Baypath)	Out of District Sped Students	Charter School Students Out	School Choice Out Students	School Choice In Students	Home School Students	Private School Students
13-14	523	42	4	0	129	53	25	9
14-15	558	38	2	0	129	70	28	7
15-16	542	35	2	0	130	66	25	5
16-17	535	38	0	0	134	69	34	4
17-18	545	42	0	5	112	58	30	2
18-19	573	43	3	5	96	69	21	2
19-20	570	47	5	6	110	65	22	2
20-21	524	36	5	10	116	53	52	7

As you can see, the number of School Coice Out students increased by a total of six students. The largest change this year, due to concerns about COVID-19, were home schooled students. We anticipate many of those students returning next year, and in fact, a number of those home school students have already returned. We also saw an increase in students attending private schools and charter schools this year. Again, this is most likely a result of the pandemic.

Inaccuracy 4

“The School Committee advised that the teachers and staff were forgoing their raises last year in light of covid, however, they have submitted a budget this year that includes 8% raises which accounts for last year’s forgone amount and this year’s standard raises. When advised that their town contribution would be cut this year’ they responded that they would have to cut programs rather than reconsidering their own raises.”

Response: The author is off base on this point. First, the teachers voted and the administrators individually chose to forgo their FY21 cost of living increases which are contractually negotiated. Where the author is mistaken, is that each year, salaries are predetermined based on negotiated agreements. So, during the FY21 year, teacher and administrator salaries stayed at the 2020 level saving the District over \$100,000 helping to avoid cuts to programs and services. The salaries due to each teacher and administrator are part of the three-year contract agreements with either the union or individuals, which means the 2022 salary rates already exist, and what is represented in the budget are those salaries for FY22.

This can make it appear like salaries are increasing at an unusually high rate, but it is merely getting back on the schedule agreed to by the Union and the School Committee. As an example, the current Teacher contract covers three years including 2020, 2021, and 2022. A teacher receives a salary based on their experience and level of education (called steps and lanes). Each yearly salary that a teacher will receive over the three years of the current contract is preset. As an example, a teacher hired for the 2020 school year, with a master’s degree, in their first year of teaching, would have received a salary of \$48,872. That same teacher in 2021 (Year #2) received a salary of \$50,795, and in 2022 would receive a salary of \$52,795. Based on the vote to forgo the salary in 2021, that teacher’s salary would have remained at \$48,872 (2020 level). However, in 2022, the salary schedule must return to what was agreed to during contract negotiations, and therefore would increase to \$52,795, making it look like the teacher received a double raise.

Inaccuracy 5

“The school has been extremely irresponsible with funds and assets allocated to them by this town and

it simply must stop.”

Response: The author cites nothing here. He/she makes a statement with no examples. As the Superintendent of Schools, I challenge the author to cite any examples of the schools being irresponsible with funds and/or assets. Even better, I would request the author come and meet with me to discuss what he/she perceives as being irresponsible. This type of exchange will allow me to understand the perspective of the author, and it will allow the author to gather accurate information. Every person in our school district takes their job very seriously and works hard to ensure we are acting in a fiscally responsible way following all state and federal laws and regulations. People making blanket anonymous statements like this with no facts to back it up is irresponsible, and simply must stop.

As I said, this letter is not advocating for or against any candidate. It is important to make sure the people of our community have accurate information. I would encourage the anonymous author to contact me and I would be glad to sit down and review in more detail the responses shared here. If any parent/guardian, community member or other people have questions or concerns, I can be contacted via phone at 508-867-9821 or email at rlind@nbschools.org.

Sincerely,
Richard Lind
Superintendent

QCC anticipates reopening of Early Childhood Education Lab School

WORCESTER – Quinsigamond Community College President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. announced the anticipated reopening of the Early Childhood Education Lab School during the fall 2021 semester.

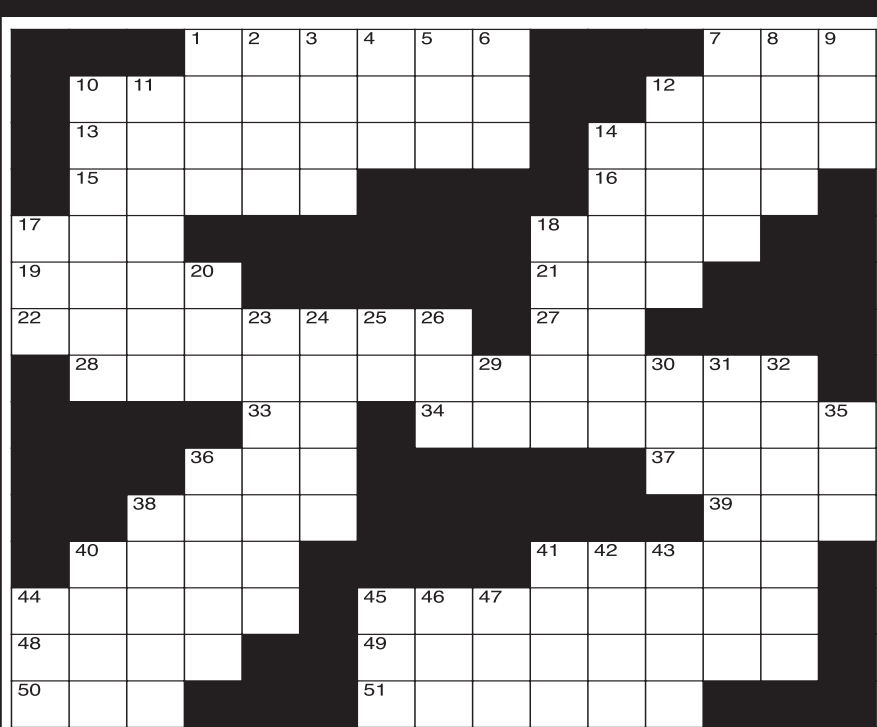
The lab school serves as a lab/training site for students in QCC’s Early Childhood Education program.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the lab school closed when the college transitioned to remote instruction; however, QCC’s early childhood education students continued their education through remote instruction. During remote operations, President Pedraja and the QCC Board of Trustees supported a program review, which examined and renewed the college’s commitment to the lab school.

“This renewed commitment directly responds to the needs of the Early Childhood Education program, and is in accordance with QCC’s strategic plan and equity initiative,” President Pedraja said. “The Lab School will have a phased reopening

that is in accordance with licensure, health, and safety protocols, as is consistent with the reopening plans of the College.”

Last month QCC released its plans to resume in-person services for the fall 2021 semester following all health and safety protocols, while continuing to maintain strong online course offerings and student support services. For more information about QCC, people may contact Josh Martin, director of institutional communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.



- CLUES ACROSS**

 - 1. Switches
 - 7. Legal financial term (abbr.)
 - 10. Sweeties
 - 12. Competition
 - 13. Measures electrical resistance
 - 14. Psychotherapy researcher
 - 15. Causes injury to
 - 16. Open
 - 17. Polish peninsula
 - 18. Hebrew calendar month
 - 19. Whale ship captain
 - 21. Children’s accessory
 - 22. Unknown point
 - 27. Exists
 - 28. Extremely confident
 - 33. Expression of
- disgust
 - 34. The government has many
 - 36. Small constellation
 - 37. Northern Indian city
 - 38. The best pitchers
 - 39. Naturally occurring solid
 - 40. Apple computers
 - 41. Portuguese city
 - 44. Ancient Greek war dance
 - 45. More reliable
 - 48. Sailboat
 - 49. Newspapers
 - 50. Frequently flooded area
 - 51. They dig for coal
- CLUES DOWN**

 - 1. Partial
 - 2. “Mad Men” leading man
 - 3. The ___ of March
 - 4. Healthy
 - 5. Where golfers begin
 - 6. Soviet Socialist Republic (abbr.)
 - 7. Of the cheek
 - 8. Injury reminder
 - 9. Statesman Franklin
 - 10. For an unknown reason
 - 11. Brain parts
 - 12. Islamic calendar month
 - 14. Avenue where ad men work
 - 17. Possesses
 - 18. Accept
 - 20. Stake
 - 23. Former British PM
 - 24. US battleships circa 1939
 - 25. Greek alphabet letter
 - 26. When you hope to get there
 - 29. Top lawyer
 - 30. Fiddler crabs
 - 31. Intolerant
 - 32. Persons that cause extreme fear
 - 35. Car mechanics group
 - 36. Capital of Ghana
 - 38. Famed ballplayer
 - 40. Emphasizes insignificance
 - 41. Light-colored
 - 42. Distinctive smell
 - 43. Muckraking
 - 44. Journalist Jacob
 - 45. Short-term memory
 - 46. Japanese delicacy
 - 47. One point north of due east

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10



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Public Safety

Barre Police Log

Sunday, April 18
1:52 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope Worcester Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal

Monday, April 19
11:02 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Street – Citation Issued
4:52 p.m. Falls Sunrise Avenue – Transported to Hospital

Tuesday, April 20
5:01 p.m. Suspicious Person/Vehicle South Barre Road – Investigated
7:10 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Worcester Road – Negative Contact

Wednesday, April 21
11:36 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Barre Road – Citation Issued
1:33 p.m. Fraud/Forgery Marsh

Road – Information Given

Thursday, April 22
1:19 p.m. Animal Bite Butterworth Road – Information Taken
5:05 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Main Street – Services Rendered
8:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident South Barre Road – Officer Spoke to Party

Friday, April 23
3:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Town Farm Road – Vehicle Towed
6:34 a.m. Stolen Vehicle North Brookfield Road – Report Filed
12:29 p.m. Brush and Wildland Fires Summer Street – Fire Extinguished
2:55 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope Wilton Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal

5:16 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Worcester Road – Referred to Other Agency

Saturday, April 24
1:05 p.m. Stroke (CVA) South Street – Transported to Hospital
5:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
9:28 p.m. Sick/Unknown South Barre Road – Transported to Hospital
9:49 p.m. Sick/Unknown Vernon Avenue – Transported to Hospital

SOUTH BARRE

Thursday, April 22
2:59 p.m. Harassment Cedar Street – Officer Took Call

Saturday, April 24
6:02 p.m. Harassment South Barre Road – Officer Spoke to Party

HardwickPolice Log

During the weeks of April 12-26, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 133 building/property checks, 44 directed/area patrols, 18 radar assignments, 22 traffic controls, 17 emergency 911 calls, 46 motor vehicle stops, 12 safety hazards, 1 scam, 1 larceny/theft/shoplifting, 4 complaints, 1 stolen motor vehicle, 2 animal calls in the town of Hardwick.

Monday, April 12
5:05 p.m. 911 – Lockout Church Lane – Services Rendered
7:39 p.m. Phone – Complaint North Street – Unknown Outcome
8:27 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Church Lane – Services Rendered
9:26 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Mill Road – Services Rendered

Tuesday, April 13
10:15 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
10:35 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Written Warning
10:36 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Written Warning
10:48 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Summons Issued
11:24 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s) Made
12:06 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
12:17 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
12:47 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
1 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
1:32 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
6:53 p.m. Phone – Complaint Bridge Street – Services Rendered

Wednesday, April 14
7:11 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Upper Church Street – Transported to Hospital

8:37 a.m. 911 – Misdia Off Church Lane – Spoken To
11:16 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
11:52 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Citation Issued
12:14 p.m. 911 – Fire, Brush Delargy Road – Extinguished

Thursday, April 15
12:37 a.m. 911 – Hang-up Call Main Street – Spoken To
1:02 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Church Street – Citation Issued

Friday, April 16
12:45 p.m. Phone – Complaint Bridge Street – Spoken To
7:28 p.m. 911 – Misdia Main Street – No Action Required

Saturday, April 17
10:41 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Railroad Lane – Written Warning
11 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
11:42 a.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Arrest(s) Made

Sunday, April 18
4:33 p.m. 911 – Lockout Church Lane – Services Rendered

Monday, April 19
9:17 a.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Church Lane – Transported to Hospital
10:48 a.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Prospect Street – Services Rendered
10:55 a.m. 911 – Hang-up Call Hardwick Road – Transferred Call to C7
4:24 p.m. Phone – Stolen Motor Vehicle Greenwich Road – Officer Handled
5:04 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Muddy Brook Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
6:21 p.m. 911 – Complaint Church Lane – Services Rendered

Tuesday, April 20
4:30 a.m. 911 – Suspicious Activity Hardwick Pond Road – Negative Contact
12:49 p.m. Phone – Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting Greenwich Road

– Report Taken
2:14 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Church Lane – Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, April 21
12:09 a.m. 911 – Complaint Church Lane – Report Taken
12:44 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Prouty Road – Spoken To
4:40 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Upper Church Street – Services Rendered
4:41 p.m. 911 – Safety Hazard Church Street – Services Rendered
4:45 p.m. Other – Safety Hazard Upper Church Street – Officer Handled
5:02 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Old Greenwich Plains Road – Services Rendered
5:09 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Ridge Road – Officer Handled
5:29 p.m. Radio – Safety Hazard Turkey Street – Services Rendered
5:34 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Ruggles Hill Road – Officer Handled
5:37 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Greenwich Road – Services Rendered

Thursday, April 22
4:19 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Road – Citation Issued
5:05 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
8:21 p.m. Other – Scam Clapp Road – Officer Handled
9:57 p.m. Phone – Motor Vehicle Accident New Braintree Road – Services Rendered

Friday, April 23
4:14 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
4:34 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Lower Road – Written Warning
5:26 p.m. 911 – Suspicious Activity Church Lane – Services Rendered

Sunday, April 25
5:53 p.m. 911 – Medical Emergency Hardwick Road – Transported to Hospital

New Braintree Police Log

During the weeks of April 12-26, the Hardwick/New Braintree Police Department responded to 31 building/property checks, 39 directed/area patrols, 16 radar assignments, 11 traffic controls, 10 emergency 911 calls, 11 motor vehicle stop, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 1 fraud, 4 animal calls, 15 safety hazards and 2 complaints in the town of New Braintree.

Monday, April 12
11:22 a.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Wine Road – Transported to Hospital

Wednesday, April 14
8:37 a.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Barr Road – Spoken To
7:30 p.m. Other -Complaint Memorial Drive – Officer Handled

Thursday, April 15
10:41 a.m. Fraud Padre Road – Report Taken

Friday, April 16
4:26 a.m. Phone – Medical Emergency Barre Road – Transported to Hospital
10:42 a.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Worcester Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
12:54 p.m. 911 – Motor Vehicle Accident Barre Cut Off Road – Vehicle Towed

Saturday, April 17
6:14 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle

Stop Utley Road – Arrest(s) Made

Sunday, April 18
12:37 p.m. 911 – Misdia Oakham Road – Spoken To

Monday, April 19
12:44 a.m. 911 – Misdia Worcester Road – Spoken To
2:39 p.m. Phone – Complaint/Motor Vehicle Operations Barre Road – Vehicle Towed

Tuesday, April 20
12:51 p.m. Initiated – Investigation Memorial Drive – Report Taken
2:34 p.m. 911 – Elevator Call/Alarms Memorial Drive – Dispatch Handled

Wednesday, April 21
2:09 a.m. 911 – Welfare Check Worcester Road – Services Rendered
4:30 p.m. Radio – Safety Hazard West Road – Officer Handled
4:44 p.m. Radio – Safety Hazard Hardwick Road – Removed Hazard
4:47 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard West Brookfield Road – Officer Handled
4:59 p.m. Other – Safety Hazard McEvoy Road – Services Rendered
5:17 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard North Brookfield Road – Services Rendered
5:25 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Barre Road – Negative Contact
5:55 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Barre Road – Officer Handled
6:26 p.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard McEvoy Road – Officer Handled

7:11 p.m. Initiated – Officer Initiated Hardwick Road – Report Taken
7:28 p.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Oakham Road – Could Not Locate

Thursday, April 22
10:54 a.m. Radio – Safety Hazard Oakham Road – Dispatch Handled
1:58 p.m. Phone – 911 Misdia Unitas Road – Spoken To
7:32 p.m. 911 – Safety Hazard Oakham Road – Services Rendered

Friday, April 23
2:32 a.m. Initiated – Safety Hazard Ravine Road – Removed Hazard
9:01 a.m. Phone – Safety Hazard Oakham Road – Taken/Referred to Other Agency
8:16 p.m. 911 – Assault Prouty Road – Transported to Hospital

Saturday, April 24
1:59 a.m. Phone – Motor Vehicle Accident Letendre Lane – Services Rendered
12:47 p.m. Phone – Complaint Rail Trail – Negative Contact

Sunday, April 25
5:16 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Hardwick Road – Citation Issued
5:33 p.m. Initiated – Motor Vehicle Stop Ravine Road – Citation Issued

More POLICE LOGS
on Page 10

Church News

Local pastor offers sermon

Names and Titles of Jesus Pt. 2

The Bible employs an array of names and titles used in reference to Jesus. Each provides insight into His nature and work. Moreover, each helps us to understand the role He should and must play in our lives, shaping how we live before Him. Let us take some time to identify and explore the following designations of Christ:

1) The Righteous Judge
The apostle Paul identified Christ as the “righteous Judge” in the following passage of Scripture:

2 Timothy 4:6-8
6 . . . I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day-and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do you realize that this is precisely how Christ presented Himself as well?

Matthew 25:31-46

31 When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 Then the King will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit

me.” 37 Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?” 40 The King will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

41 Then he will say to those on his left, “Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.” 44 They also will answer, “Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?” 45 He will reply, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.” 46 Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.

To what degree do you understand your accountability to Christ? Are you prepared to meet the Lord?

Hebrews 4:13

13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

2) The Bright Morning Star

Jesus also self-identified as the “bright Morning Star” in the following selection:

Revelation 21:12-16 (Emphasis Mine)

12 Look, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. 14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of

life and may go through the gates into the city. 15 Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. 16 I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.

What does this mysterious title signify?

The ancients would look to the morning star (i.e., likely Venus) to herald the dawning of a new day. The appearance of this luminous celestial body in the pre-morning hours announced the coming of the dawn. Jesus, in the Book of Revelation, uses this term in reference to Himself-as the One who will announce at His Coming the dawning of a new age. As one author writes, “When Jesus comes, He will dispel the darkness of man’s night and herald the dawn of God’s glorious day!”

This world will not continue as it is forever. Rather, Christ shall return to establish His glorious and everlasting kingdom (cf. Dan. 7:9-10, 13-14; Acts 1:10-11; Rev. 19:11-16)! To what degree are you convinced that the dawning of God’s new day is fast approaching? To what degree does this reality fill your heart with hope and joy unspeakable? Are you readied and watchful for the Return of Christ (Matt. 25:13)? Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Thank you for taking the time to read this publication. Should you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me at your convenience using the information below. Also, feel free to check us out online at www.NewLifeBarre.org or visit us in person each Sunday at 10:30am (COVID-19 protocols are presented on our website). We hope to see you soon!

Pastor James Foley

*New Life Assembly of God
60 Main St. South Barre, MA
jamesfoley@newlifebarre.org
or 978-355-6407*

Tri-Parish services return to StoneChurch

NEW BRAINTREE – Summer services begin Sunday May 2 at the Stone Church in Gilbertville. All are welcome to attend the services on Sundays at 10 a.m.

The church is hosting its annual plant/bake/craft sale on the Hardwick Common on Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. People may call the church office at 508-867-3306 to volunteer or ask questions. An administrative assistant has office hours by phone at that number every week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. People may call then or leave a message any time.

First Congregational Church to return to in-person services, Sunday, May 2

WEST BROOKFIELD – First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, 36 North Main St., opens for in-person worship on May 2. The church requires sign-ups in advance by calling the church office at 508-867-7078, mask wearing and social distancing while in the sanctuary. Those

attending will check in at the front doors of the church. A limited number of people will be allowed in the sanctuary because of COVID-19 restrictions, so people must call the church to sign up.

Worship services are every Sunday at 10 a.m.; Communion is served on the first Sunday of

each month.

Contact Rev. Dr. Ann M Rogers Brigham, Pastor, at the church office for more information by emailing firstconglwestbrookfield@gmail.com or calling 508-867-7078. Services will still be on ZOOM and Facebook Live. Contact the church for the link.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

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Barre Gazette

Barre Gazette OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Superior Court Department of the Trial Court Worcester, SS. Civil Action No. 1885CV1941
CASE NAME: Fidelity Cooperative Bank S/B/M Barre Savings Bank vs. Kevin P. Dahn, II
TO: **Kevin P. Dahn, II**, all in said Commonwealth; and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. §501 et seq.:
Fidelity Cooperative Bank claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ma, **known and numbered as 1083 Old Coldbrook Road, Barre, MA** given by **Kevin P. Dahn, II** to **Barre Savings Bank**, dated: **06/10/2014**, and recorded in the **Worcester County District Registry of Deeds**, in Book 52411, Page 357 has/have filed with this court a Complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemember status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in **active** military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property **on that basis**, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Worcester Superior Court on or before **05/24/2021** or you may lose the opportu-

nity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Judith Fabricant, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court, at **Worcester**, Massachusetts, this, this **12th** day of **April, 2021**.
Dennis P. McManus Clerk of Courts
04/29/2021

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Christopher L. Eldredge to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, dated March 23, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40890, Page 128 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to The Bank of New York Mellon, as Trustee for the Certificateholders, CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-7, recorded on January 15, 2010, in Book No. 45355, at Page 331
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender to The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-7, recorded on May

29, 2012, in Book No. 49039, at Page 163 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **3:00 PM on May 6, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises located at 3234 Greenwich Road a/k/a 3208 Greenwich Road, Hardwick, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:
A certain parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, situated on the westerly side of Greenwich Road, in Hardwick, MA and being shown as Lot # 3 on a plan of land owned by Karl D. Germain and Brenda L. Germain dated April 10, 1989, by Donald A. Para, R.L.S. and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 619, Plan 91. Beginning at an iron pipe at the northeasterly corner of lot herein described, on the westerly side of Greenwich Road and at the southeasterly corner of Lot #4. THENCE: S. 8 degrees 43' 26" W, along the westerly side of Greenwich Road, 213.18 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 56 degrees 26' 19" W. along Lot # 2, 285.35 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 54 degrees 14' 8" W. along Lot # 2 960.65 feet to a gun barrel; THENCE: N. 27 degrees 16' 55" E. along land now or formerly of Louis H. and Angelina Labier, 100.00 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 60 degrees 23' 00" E. along

Lot# 4 696.24 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 34 degrees 23' 6" E along Lot # 4 177.21 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 89 degrees 7' 35" E along Lot # 4 72.00 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 69 degrees 8' 25" E. along Lot # 4 69.97 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: N. 74 degrees 42' 6" E along Lot # 4 42.65 feet to an iron pipe; THENCE: S. 60 degrees 36' 8" E. along Lot # 4 153.04 feet to the point of beginning. Being the same premises conveyed to me by Deed of Lu-Ann J. Eldredge dated April 6, 2006 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 38743, Page 264.
For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38743, Page 264.
These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.
TERMS OF SALE:
A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified

or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWABS, INC., A S E T - B A C K E D CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-7
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
19755
04/15, 04/22, 04/29/2021
COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING
Notice is hereby given that High Hawk Farm LLC of 140 Worcester Rd Barre MA 01005 will conduct a Community Outreach Meeting on the following matter at **6:00 pm on May 3, 2021** at Higgins Powersports locat-

ed at 140 Worcester Road, Barre MA 01005. High Hawk Farm, LLC intends to apply for the following Adult-use Marijuana license: Marijuana Product Manufacturing; at 286 School Street North, Barre MA 01005, pursuant to MGL Ch. 94 G and Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017, other applicable laws and regulations promulgated thereunder, including those promulgated thereunder by the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission.
04/22, 04/29/2021
Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO21P1339EA Estate of: Lester William Paquin Also known as: Lester Paquin, Lester W Paquin Date of Death: 03/11/2021 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **John Francis Tambeau** of Barre, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: **John Francis Tambeau** of Barre MA be appointed as Personal

Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in unsupervised administration
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/18/2021**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A. Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 21, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate
04/29/2021
Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. WO21C0142CA In the matter of: Yusuke Sakura Williams CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Yusuke Sakura Williams** of Gilbertville, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Joseph Sakura Williams
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court** before **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/11/2021**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. **Leilah A. Keamy**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 13, 2021
Stephanie Fattman Register of Probate
04/29/2021

Public Safety

Rutland Police Log

Sunday, April 18
11:39 a.m. Sick/Unknown Old Turnpike Road – Referred to Other Agency
12:08 p.m. Breathing Difficulty Spencer Road – Referred to Other Agency
2:23 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Kosta Avenue – Officer Spoke to Party
2:44 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Kosta Avenue – Officer Spoke to Party
3:04 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire Fisherman's Road – Vehicle Towed
Summons: Dustin M. Kelly, 26, Spencer
Stop/Yield, Fail to; License Revoked as HTO, Operate Motor Vehicle With
6:16 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Brunelle Drive – Transported to Hospital
6:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
8:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Citation Issued
Summons: Brian Hall, 29, Auburn
Speeding Rate of Speed Exceeding Posted Limit; Unlicensed Operation of Motor Vehicle
Monday, April 19
9:14 a.m. Sick/Unknown North Brookfield Road – Transported to Hospital
10:19 a.m. Property Damage Maple Avenue – Report Filed
3:54 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Whitehall Road – Gone On Arrival
5:18 p.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope Maple Avenue – Ambulance Signed Refusal
Tuesday, April 20
7:06 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Maple Avenue – Citation Issued
7:23 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
7:38 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Miles Road – Citation Issued
7:47 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Written Warning
8:19 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Written Warning
8:28 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Vista Circle – Written Warning
11:50 a.m. Vandalism Pleasantdale Road – Officer Spoke to Party
1:11 p.m. Sick/Unknown Highland Park Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:20 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Vehicle Towed
Wednesday, April 21
1:22 p.m. Sick/Unknown Miles Road – Transported to Hospital
6:42 p.m. Noise Violation, Party Maple Avenue – Officer Spoke to Party
Thursday, April 22
7:30 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pommogussett Road – Citation Issued
7:43 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning
7:49 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning
8:03 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Citation Issued
8:12 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Citation Issued
8:29 a.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Juniper Lane – Transported to Hospital
8:37 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Written Warning
12:07 p.m. Sick/Unknown Edson Avenue – Investigated
3:30 p.m. Property Damage Barre Paxton Road – Report Filed
5:05 p.m. Sick/Unknown Main Street – Ambulance Signed Refusal
9:48 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Citation Issued
10:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire East County Road – Transported to Hospital
Summons: Meghan O. Jordan, 18,

Rutland
Marked Lanes Violation; Inspection/ Sticker, No; OUI-Drugs; OUI-Liquor or .08%; Negligent Operation of Motor Vehicle; Alcohol in Motor Vehicle, Possess Open Container of
Friday, April 23
4:41 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Barre Paxton Road – Written Warning
6:05 a.m. Property Damage Nancy Drive – Report Filed
1:25 p.m. Prowler/Trespasser Watson Lane – Officer Spoke to Party
3:12 p.m. Falls Barre Paxton Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire North Brookfield Road – Vehicle Towed
4 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Pleasantdale Road – Citation Issued
6:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop East County Road – Citation Issued
9:42 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Vehicle Towed
Summons: Dominic A. Padeni, 19, Oxford
Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID; Registration Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Uninsured Motor Vehicle
Saturday, April 24
4:22 p.m. Falls New Braintree Road – Transported to Hospital
5:40 p.m. Choking Sedona Circle – Ambulance Signed Refusal
6:18 p.m. Harassment Orchard Hill Drive – Report Filed
6:26 p.m. Fire, Smoke Investigation Vista Circle – Investigated
Sunday, April 25
1:26 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Main Street – Vehicle Towed
Summons: Brendan J. Bishop, 20, Worcester
Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Registration Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With

Oakham Police Log

Sunday, April 18
11:39 a.m. Sick/Unknown Old Turnpike Road – Referred to Other Agency
12:08 p.m. Breathing Difficulty Spencer Road – Referred to Other Agency
4:28 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop North Brookfield Road – Citation Issued
6:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Old Turnpike Road – Citation Issued
Monday, April 19
9:14 a.m. Sick/Unknown North Brookfield Road – Transported to Hospital
7:04 p.m. Recreational Vehicle Complaint Coldbrook Road – Information Taken
Thursday, April 22
10:16 a.m. Assist Other Police Department Crawford Road – Report Filed
Friday, April 23
11:42 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop South Road – Citation Issued
3:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Collision/Fire North Brookfield Road – Vehicle Towed
Saturday, April 24
4:22 p.m. Falls New Braintree Road – Transported to Hospital

Hubbardston Police Log

Other Agency
2:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
3:07 p.m. Falls Brigham Street – Transported to Hospital
4:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
4:32 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
4:52 p.m. Traffic Hazard Worcester Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Jonathan K. Roy, 31, Hubbardston
Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Uninsured Motor Vehicle
5:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop New Templeton Road – Citation Issued
8:47 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Brigham Street – Citation Issued
9:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
9:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Worcester Road – Citation Issued
Sunday, April 18
5:11 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
7:10 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Citation Issued
8:44 p.m. Overdose/Poisoning Adams Road – Ambulance Signed Refusal
Monday, April 19
6:51 a.m. Sick/Unknown Ragged Hill Road – Transported to Hospital
8:25 a.m. Unconscious/Unresponsive/Syncope Old Princeton Road – Transported to Hospital
8:18 p.m. Chest Pain/Heart Problems Shawnee Way – Transported to Hospital
Tuesday, April 20
12 p.m. Sick/Unknown Grimes Road – Transported to Hospital
2:36 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Ragged Hill Road – Criminal Complaint
Summons: Danny J. Rioux, 45, Gardner
Uninsured Motor Vehicle; Unregistered Motor Vehicle; Number Plate Violation to Conceal ID
4:33 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop
12:22 a.m. Motor Vehicle Erratic Mt. Jefferson Road – Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Steven J. Perreault, 23, Barre
Snow/Recreational Vehicle – Public Way Violation; Stop for Police, Fail; Snow/Recreational Vehicle Unregistered; Snow/Recreational Vehicle – Negligent/Reckless Operation; Marked Lanes Violation
7:24 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop Gardner Road – Report Filed
9:29 p.m. Follow-up Investigation Main Street – Arrest(s) Made
Arrest: Ashley Cora, 20, Fitchburg
Larceny from Person; Accessory After the Fact; License Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle With; Accessory Before the Fact

Barre Gazette

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



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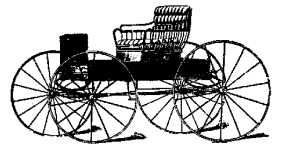
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Town of Warren Wastewater Treatment Plant. **Assistant Chief Operator.** The Town of Warren Board of Sewer Commissioners is accepting Applications for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Assistant Chief Operator. Salary is \$23.3 per hour. Applicants must possess a Massachusetts Grade 5 Operators License and valid MA Driver's license. Job description and applications are available at the **Warren Wastewater Treatment Plant, 2527 Main Street, West Warren, MA 01092.** The position will remain open until filled. Warren is an EOE.

TRUCK DRIVER FT - Class A CDL - Bulk Tank - Tri Axle - Dump Trailer - Experience Required. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow (413) 583-8393**

WARREN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 87 Brimfield Rd Warren, MA or Olson@warren-ma.gov is looking for a Full-time FOREMAN, Operator/Driver/Laborer Must have a Class B CDL license, prefer a Class A CDL, current DOT Physical, Hoisting Engineers license with MINIMUM HE – 2B Must be available for emergency calls days, nights, weekends & holidays. We would prefer you have two (2) years minimum plowing experience with commercial vehicles. Applications available on the town Website Volunteer and Employment Opportunities I Warren, MA (warren-ma.gov) or at the Highway Garage M-Thru 7AM-4PM (413) 436-7677 Equal Opportunity Employer Board of Selectmen

FULL JOB DESCRIPTION FOR A MECHANIC DRIVER/LABORER Do you enjoy working outdoors? Would you like to be part of a thriving, friendly and dedicated team? The Town of Warren Highway Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the full-time position of Mechanic Driver/Laborer. The Town of Warren is committed to equal opportunity, encourages diversity and inclusion, and believes that a positive culture of inclusion in Town governance contributes to the Town's overall qualities as a great place to live and work. We welcome all to apply. Salary: Starting at \$19.38 Hours: M-THUR, 6:00 am – 4:00 pm, from April 1 – Nov 30; M-F 6:00 am – 2:00 pm Dec 1 – March 31

Overtime is required for: Answer's emergency calls and responds to emergencies during and after normal business hours. Including during Snow and Ice storms.

Drug & Alcohol screening is a condition of employment
Essential: The Driver/Mechanic/Laborer provides Works primarily in the town maintenance garage. Some work will be outdoors on roads and in town vehicles.
Qualifications: High school equivalency; Highway maintenance operation experience preferred.
Required Licensing/Certification: Possession of a valid 2B Hoisting License and MA Class B CDL.
Benefits: Dental insurance; Disability insurance; Employee assistance program; Health insurance; Life insurance; Paid time off; Retirement plan
Internal/External Applicants: To be considered for this vacancy, please submit the required Town of Warren Application for Employment, and resume no later than 4:00 pm, Thursday May 6, 2021. Applications will be accepted via email, drop off to: **Town of Warren Highway Department 87 Brimfield Rd, Warren, 01083** or mailed to: **Warren Highway Department PO Box 628, Warren, Ma 01083.** For information on accessing the Town's employment application and resume (including an email address for sending electronically), please visit the Town of Warren website, Volunteer, and employment. The application is attached to the job posting at: Volunteer and Employment Opportunities I Warren, MA (warren-ma.gov)

RATHBONE PRECISION METALS, INC. Manufacturer of metal shapes has a full-time opportunity for a Manufacturing Tool Designer. Responsibilities include design and draft of cold forming tools using CAD software and producing tool paths for wire EDM machines using CAM software while assisting/supporting manufacturing processes. Candidates should demonstrate a good work ethic, be dependable, have good judgment and be a team player. Candidates must have an Associate's degree in Engineering with proficient reading, writing, and math skills, excellent communication skills and be able to pay close attention to detail. Based on experience we offer competitive compensation and a comprehensive benefits package. Visit www.rathboneprofiles.com for employment applications and submit online, via email to linda.dias@rathboneprofiles.com or mail to 1241 Park Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Rathbone is proud to be an equal opportunity workplace and is an affirmative action employer.

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17 Convent Hill, Ware, MA



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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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